# The Campaigns of the Confederate Army

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# THE CAMPAIGNS OF THE CONFEDERATE ARMY

BY

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Hanover
Frostburg
Cumberland
Hagerstown
Funkstown
Williamsport
Westminster
Havre de Grace

PENNSYLVANIA
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Gettysburg
Hagerstown
Frostburg
Cumberland
Frankfort
Romney
Winchester
Martinsburg
Shepherdstown
Harpers Ferry
Charlestown
Sharpsburg
Williamsport
Funkstown
Frederick
New Market
Middletown
Monocacy
Flint Rocks
Westminster
Taneytown
Hanover
Littlestown
Havre de Grace
Baltimore
Ellicott City
Annapolis Junction
Rockville
Bladensburg
WASHINGTON
Upper Marlboro
Alexandria
Fairfax C.H.
Centreville
Gainesville
Brentsville
Dumfries
Stafford C.H.
Falmouth
Fredericksburg
King George C.H.
Leonardtown
Monross
Warsaw
Tappahannock
Bowling Green
Spotsylvania
Orange C.H.
Gordonsville
Louisa C.H.
Charlottesville
Palmyra
Scottsville
Lovingston
Columbia
James River
Goochland
Powhatan C.H.
RICHMOND
Manchester
Petersburg
Chesterfield C.H.
Amelia C.H.
Farmville
Prince Edward C.H.
Appomattox C.H.
Lynchburg
Liberty
Rustburg
Cumberland C.H.
Maysville
Amherst C.H.
Newmarket
Burkeville
Nottoway C.H.
Five Forks
Dinwiddie C.H.
Smithville
Staunton R.
Halifax C.H.
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Lancaster C.H.
Urbanna
Saluda
West Point
King William C.H.
King and Queen C.H.
New Kent C.H.
Charles City C.H.
Williamsburg
Yorktown
City Point
Dr. George C.H.
Surry C.H.
Warwick
C. CHARLES
C. MONROE
C. HENRY
Isle of Wight C.H.
Sussex C.H.
Jerusalem
Suffolk
Norfolk
Portsmouth
Fr. Anne C.H.
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Pamlico Sound
Pamlico R.
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Newbern
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Beaufort
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Cape Lookout
Cape Hatteras
Shoals
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Pedee R.
Georgetown
Cheraw
Cheraw C.H.
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Bonsack's
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Wentworth
Leasburg
Hillsborough
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Haywood
Ashborough
Salisbury
Lexington
Statesville
Taylorsville
Morganton
Rutherfordton
Rockingham
Lincolnton
Charlotte
Concord
Salem
Bethania
Germanton
Dobbs
Iredell
Rowan
Cabarrus
Mecklenburg
Anson
Richmond
Montgomery
Moore
Chatham
Randolph
Guilford
Stokes
Surry
Caswell
Person
Granville
Orange
Wake
Johnston
Sampson
Duplin
Jones
Lenoir
Craven
Carteret
Hyde
Tyrrell
Washington
Martin
Bertie
Northampton
Halifax
Warren
Franklin
Nash
Edgecombe
Wilson
Greene
Pitt
Beaufort
Hertford
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Dare
Brunswick
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Cleveland
Rutherford
Burke
Caldwell
Wilkes
Ashe
Alleghany
Watauga
Yadkin
Davie
Davidson
Montgomery
Richmond
Anson
Union
Stanly
Iredell
Rowan
Cabarrus
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Carteret
Pitt
Beaufort
Hertford
Gates
Perquimans
Pasquotank
Camden
Currituck
Chowan
Tyrrell
Hyde
Dare

# THE CAMPAIGNS OF THE CONFEDERATE ARMY.

## CHAPTER I.

### THE VIRGINIA CAMPAIGNS.

There exists among the young people of the South a widespread ignorance of the War of Secession. This is a source of much regret to those who lived through those stirring times and helped to make the glorious record of the Southern States. Our children, with all the advantages of their schools, are familiar enough with the English wars, but they are profoundly ignorant of the great struggle which shook the very foundations of their own country. They can repeat the victories of Napoleon, but they know nothing of the campaigns of Lee and Johnston. They can recount the exploits of the soldiers of the Revolution, but naught can they tell of that heroic army composed of their own fathers and grandsires that was for four years the admiration of the world. Nor are they to be blamed for this. Until a few years since, all the histories to which they had access were written by Northern men, and if in their brief account of the war between the States they spared the South some censure, they also withheld any approval of its action or its armies. There was then no source except by tradition from which our young people could learn the history which their fathers made.

In this brief history no reference will be made to the causes of the war, save to insist right here that it was no

"rebellion," although the word has found its way into the acts of Congress. Nor is there any attempt to write a history of the war, but simply to offer an outline of the brave deeds and brilliant victories of the Confederate army. And while it is the intention of the writer to glorify the Confederate soldier, he intends no disparagement of his brave antagonist. They were all Americans. If they had not been, that bloody war would never have lasted for four long years.

The military operations of the Confederate States were carried on under three separate organizations: the Army of Northern Virginia, the Army of Tennessee, and the Army of the West.

The first repelled the invasion of Virginia from the North. The Army of Tennessee defended a frontier of more than five hundred miles, reaching from the Alleghanies to the Mississippi. The Army of the West held the line from Memphis to Galveston.

Besides these three grand divisions, there were the garrisons of the various forts, with their supporting battalions, which defended the blockaded ports on the southern coasts. In order to avoid any confusion, we will take up their campaigns separately.

The objective point of all the Federal advances in Virginia was Richmond. The seat of the Confederate government had been moved to that city in the spring of 1861, and every attempt on the part of the Army of the Potomac was directed to the capture of the capital of the Confederacy.

During the four years of war the opposing armies engaged in nine great campaigns: First Manassas or Bull Run, the Peninsular, Second Manassas, Sharpsburg, Fredericksburg, Chancellorsville, Gettysburg, the Wilderness, and Petersburg.

During that time the Army of Northern Virginia had but two commanders—Joseph E. Johnston and Robert E. Lee.

The Army of the Potomac was commanded successively by Generals McDowell, McClelland, Halleck, Burnside, Hooker, Meade, and Grant.

In the limitations of this little book, we can only sketch out these campaigns, noticing the main conflicts in each, for there were hundreds of skirmishes between small bodies of troops which we can not even name here.

## CHAPTER II.

### MANASSAS.

On July 16, 1861, the Federal army, under General McDowell, had concentrated at Centreville, Va., about twenty-five miles from Washington City by railroad.

Their object was to seize the railroad and march to Richmond. Their march was opposed by the Confederates under General Beauregard, stationed about five miles away, behind a creek called Bull Run. General Johnston was sixty miles away in the Shenandoah Valley on the other side of the Blue Ridge. Some skirmishing a day or two in advance brought Johnston from the valley with troops under Generals Bee, Bartow and Jackson.

General McDowell ordered the attack to be made early July 21st, and the battle lasted from 6 A. M. till 5 P. M.

We can not here describe the battle in detail. A large force of the Federals by a detour of five or six miles attempted to turn the flank of our army, but the clouds of dust made by that July march betrayed their design.

Beauregard's whole plan was changed, and the battle shifted to another quarter. To oppose the advancing enemy Generals Bee and Bartow occupied a commanding plateau near the house of Mrs. Henry, and the fiercest of the fight was for the possession of this position.

At first fortune favored the Federals. Under Sherman and Burnside they pressed the men of Evans, Bee and Bartow until they gave way before the hot artillery cross-fire. Then the gallant Bee, pointing to Jackson on the opposite

knoll, cried, "Look at Jackson! There he stands like a stone wall. Rally behind him!" Thus christened in blood and fire, the hero is known to the whole world as "Stonewall Jackson." The men responded to their leader's appeal and with a charge and a yell they repelled the enemy. In a second charge the brave Bee fell and a few minutes later the gallant Bartow was mortally wounded.

At a critical moment Kirby Smith arrived with reinforcements from the valley and a general attack wrested the batteries from the Federals, leaving them shorn of their strength, and then the rout began.

The brave troops which had marched out from Washington with banners flying, keeping step to the music of well-trained bands, accompanied by citizens, congressmen and ladies in carriages to cheer them on to Richmond, were now a mass of frightened fugitives, who strewed the road for thirty miles back to Long Bridge with the impedimenta of the camp.

The battle of Manassas, although a victory for our arms, was as demoralizing as a defeat. Soldiers left their commands without leave; some to exhibit the trophies of the battle-field; some to attend sick or wounded friends; some believing the war was over, left for their homes.

Well-informed public men expressed the opinion that Manassas was the decisive battle of the war and there would be no more fighting. Our people became over-confident. They believed the "Yankee" couldn't fight anyhow. The effect upon the North was different. Their defeat aroused them to greater and more determined efforts. Thousands of volunteers poured into Washington, and millions of dollars were appropriated for further equipments.

The immediate fruits of our victory was the ample supply of captured arms, cartridges, cannon and equipments, things

we sorely needed, and for the lack of which hundreds of volunteers were idly waiting in Richmond.

Manassas, because the first, has been regarded as one of the greatest battles of the war. Yet the Federals lost but thirty-five hundred men and the Confederates two thousand, while each side had eighteen thousand engaged in battle. Compare these figures with the eighty-seven thousand Federals opposed to thirty-seven thousand Confederates at Sharpsburg, where the former lost twelve thousand and the latter thirteen thousand men.

From June till November an attempt was made to maintain the Confederate authority in the mountainous region of West Virginia. The native population, as was true of the mountain ranges throughout the South, were intensely Union in sentiment. Not a recruit was made. On the contrary, every aid was given the Union forces under McClelland and Rosecrans by guides through the mountain passes and otherwise.

The engagements in this campaign amounted to little more than skirmishes. The roads were almost impassable to troops and the positions inaccessible for artillery.

The Confederates sustained a serious loss in the death, in June, of General Robert S. Garnett. General Henry R. Jackson succeeded him in command and General Lee succeeded General Jackson. Nothing was accomplished in this campaign, although our troops suffered greatly in that difficult region, and when our forces were withdrawn the Alleghanies became the western limit of the Confederacy.

## CHAPTER III.

### THE PENINSULAR CAMPAIGN.

After the battle of Manassas for the remainder of the summer our troops occupied positions within ten miles of Washington, but no actions occurred except the affair of Ball's Bluff, in which the Federals were driven into the Potomac and were nearly all drowned or captured. A fight occurred at Dranesville which was almost as disastrous to our men. As winter approached General Johnston withdrew to Centreville and went into winter quarters.

In the meantime General Geo. B. McClelland had been placed in command of the Army of the Potomac. When the spring of 1862 opened he had the choice of four routes to Richmond.

1. The original route by Manassas Junction and the Orange Railroad.
2. By way of Fredericksburg.
3. From the Lower Rappahannock.
4. From Yorktown up the Peninsula.

General McClelland chose the last.

Since May, 1861, our forces under General Magruder had occupied Yorktown. The strip of land between the York and James rivers is known as the Peninsula. Fortress Monroe is on the lower end. Yorktown is a little higher up on the York River. Between the two is Bethel Church, where the first skirmish of the war was fought. General Johnston decided to evacuate Yorktown and retire to a position nearer to Richmond. He was a master of retreat and this one was

methodically made, while McClelland cautiously followed. At Williamsburg a stand was made. McClelland attacked on May 5th. The battle continued till dark and the advantages were with the Confederates.

The object of the battle of Williamsburg on the part of Johnston was to gain time to remove his wagon-trains and to engage the enemy until the road was clear. This object was attained and on the next day the march was resumed in the direction of Richmond. Retreating by gradual stages, Johnston halted his army within nine miles of Richmond, behind entrenched lines. McClelland advanced to Fair Oaks station on the railroad and also entrenched.

On May 31st Johnston attacked and the battle of Seven Pines, called by the Federals "Fair Oaks," was begun. This was the first of a series of battles lasting for a month, during which time McClelland vainly endeavored to reach Richmond, finally abandoning the attempt and retreating to the protection of his gunboats.

The battle of Seven Pines was begun about 2 P. M., and was renewed the next day. The attempt of the first day was but partially successful. The Federals were driven back about a mile and then held their ground. About dark General Johnston was severely wounded—hit by a rifle-ball and knocked from his horse by a shell. The command devolved upon General Gustavus W. Smith. It was Johnston's intention to renew the attack the next morning, but General Smith was not so inclined. The fight was not pushed with vigor and he gave orders to withdraw the troops. About noon General Robert E. Lee was assigned to the command of the army, and at once took charge, the troops having reoccupied their former positions.

The battle of Seven Pines, while a victory for our side, was

without results. The Confederates had fifteen thousand men engaged and lost six thousand. The Federals had nineteen thousand engaged and lost five thousand. We captured four hundred prisoners, six cannon and three thousand new rifles.

## CHAPTER IV.

### THE VALLEY CAMPAIGN.

Let us go back a little. May 1, 1862, found Stonewall Jackson in the valley, near Staunton, with sixteen thousand men. Opposed to him were eighty thousand, under General Banks, scattered along the valley as far as Winchester. It was the intention of the Federals to send sixty thousand of these troops to reinforce McClelland, who was then planning his advance on Richmond. Suddenly the appalling news was spread among the Virginians that Jackson had abandoned the valley and had fled to the east of the Blue Ridge. The enemy soon heard of it. But while they were congratulating themselves, Jackson suddenly appeared before General Milroy, near McDowell, Va., attacked and defeated him, and drove him further west of the mountains. Resting his men a few days and leaving a detachment to watch Milroy, by forced marches he hurried to Front Royal and there surprised and defeated the enemy, who fled up the valley towards Winchester.

The next day at Newton Jackson struck Banks, and whipped him, capturing many prisoners and immense quantities of military stores, including nine thousand stand of arms, all new and in perfect order. Banks made a stand at Winchester, but was again defeated and fled across the Potomac and sent a dispatch congratulating the government that he was safe!

All this time General Fremont was near Franklin, Va., with fourteen thousand men. When he heard of Bank's defeat, he moved to cut off Jackson on his way back to Staunton. General Shields was sent from the east to join Fre-

mont. Jackson marched to Cross Keys, near Harrisonville, attacked Fremont and after a severe battle was master of the field.

That night Jackson told General Patton: "Throw out all your men before Fremont so as to make him think the whole army is behind you. I will join you in the morning. I shall attack Shields at sunrise and by the blessing of God I hope to be back by ten o'clock."

Did ever before a man calculate the time it would take him to whip an opposing enemy!

Leaving General Ewell to watch Fremont, General Jackson crossed the river that night with the rest of his army and marched to Port Republic to find Shields. Early next morning he attacked the enemy, defeated them and drove them eight miles.

In thirty-five days this remarkable soldier had marched three hundred miles, fought four battles, winning them all, and captured military stores enough to arm and equip his entire army. His losses aggregated eighteen hundred; those of the Federals forty-six hundred.

Resting his men a few days, Jackson suddenly took up his line of march and on June 25th, while McDowell was watching the approaches to Washington from the valley with fifty thousand men, McClelland a hundred miles away on the Chickahominy was astounded to find Jackson on his flank.

The prime factors in Stonewall Jackson's success were his secrecy and his promptness to act. He confided in no one. None but himself knew where his march would end. His men had unbounded confidence in him, and so rapidly did they move from place to place that they were known as "Jackson's foot cavalry."

"Where are you going?" was asked of one as he went by on the march.

"I don't know; but old Jack does," said he.

## CHAPTER V.

### THE SEVEN DAYS FIGHT.

General Lee, having matured his plans for the campaign, after assuming command of the army, directed Stonewall Jackson with as much secrecy as possible to join him at the Nine Mile Road, near Richmond. This was done with such success that the Federals were completely bewildered as to his movements. Their official dispatches show that on June 10th he was believed to have sixty thousand men and was marching from Port Republic after Fremont. June 13th he was reported to be at Charlottesville and moving either against Shields at Luray or against King at Catletts, or against Doubleday at Fredericksburg. On the 16th it was certain that he was near Front Royal. June 18th he had gone to Richmond, but had left Ewell with ten thousand men in the valley. On the 19th Banks was sure he was moving down the valley with thirty thousand troops. On the 20th telegrams were received saying that Jackson was moving on Warren. On June 22d reliable reports said that he was about to attack Banks at Middletown. On the 25th Fremont was expecting an attack from the direction of Tennessee, and on the 26th of June, while McClelland's pickets were being driven in by Jackson's advance, Secretary Staunton was telegraphing McClelland that the forces in the valley under Major General Pope were preparing to attack and overcome Jackson and Ewell, and threaten Richmond from the direction of Charlottesville!

On June 26th General Lee attacked McClelland at Mechan-

icsville. It was the beginning of a succession of battles known as the Seven Days Fight, comprising Mechanicsville, Beaverdam Creek, Gaines Mill, Cold Harbor, Savage Station, Frazer's Farm, White Oak Swamp and Malvern Hill.

The fight at Mechanicsville was bloody, and the losses to the Confederates were heavy. The Federals were driven back and took refuge behind strong defenses at Beaverdam Creek. The next morning, always taking the offensive, Lee attacked them at Gaines Mill and at Cold Harbor. The Federals were in a strong position still further strengthened by log breastworks and rifle-pits, but dashing through dense swamps and over breastworks the impetuous Confederates drove back the enemy and swept the field.

In this advance General Jackson with a few staff officers had ridden ahead of his skirmish lines and found himself in front of a squad of fifteen Federal soldiers. Instantly charging upon them he demanded their surrender and carried them back as prisoners. The prisoners told it themselves, and one of them called out as he passed, "Gentlemen, I had the honor of being captured by General Stonewall Jackson himself."

The result of the repeated assaults of Lee's army was the retreat of McClelland across the Chickahominy to Malvern Hill, a position of great strength, near the James River. His retreat was accompanied by the destruction of immense quantities of quartermaster's stores and ammunition, which he could not remove. The whole country was full of deserted plunder of every description—wagons, provisions, clothing, medicine-chests and arms—all destroyed or as nearly so as was possible during the retreat.

General Lee attacked at Malvern Hill on July 1st. Charge after charge was made by the gallant Confederates, but with no results except great slaughter. The battle continued till

9 o'clock at night, when the exhausted Southerners laid down to snatch a few hours' sleep, and then renew the assault. But during the night McClelland skilfully withdrew to the cover of his gunboats at Harrison's landing, on the James River, and subsequently retreated further down the Peninsula, and Richmond was relieved.

In every attack the Confederates had found the enemy behind strong defenses, and hence the fearful loss of twenty thousand of our men. But so fierce were their assaults that the Federals themselves lost fifteen thousand.

McClelland's fight at Frazer's Farm was made for the same reason as Johnston's at Williamsburg—to gain time for the removal of his trains. After that he was in full retreat.

In the Seven Days Fight, Generals McCall and Reynolds, of the Union army, were captured and General Meade was badly wounded.

## CHAPTER VI.

### SECOND MANASSAS.

General McClelland's failure to take Richmond resulted in his own removal and the appointment of General Henry W. Halleck in his place.

While McClelland was retreating down the Peninsula, General John Pope, commanding a corps of forty-seven thousand strong, was cautiously moving towards Richmond along the Orange & Alexandria Railroad—the old Manassas route. After the battle of Malvern Hill, General Lee sent Stonewall Jackson to confront and watch Pope. On August 9th occurred the battle of Cedar Mountain, in which our General Winder was killed and in which Jackson was victorious.

About a week later, leaving Magruder to defend the Peninsula route, General Lee marched the remainder of his army up to Gordonsville and threatened Washington. Thoroughly alarmed, the authorities ordered up McClelland's forces to reinforce Pope. The two armies manoeuvered for position and the clouds of war gathered thick.

In one of his characteristic raids, Stuart rode into the headquarters of General Pope, captured his clothing and personal equipment, his official dispatches and $350,000 of United States currency.

On August 26th the Federals were occupying Warrenton and the line of the railroad north of the Rappahannock. General Longstreet was opposite them, at Waterloo Bridge, awaiting developments. General Lee sent Jackson off on one of his erratic marches towards the Blue Ridge with three

days' rations, apparently leaving Longstreet alone to cope with the entire Federal army. No one but Lee and Jackson knew where he was going. Behind the mountain ridge he turned sharply to the right, passed through Thoroughfare Gap in the Bull Run Mountains and arrived at Gainesville, where he was joined by Stuart's cavalry, and then pushed on to Bristow's Station, on the railroad.

General Pope now had the Rappahannock on one side of him, Longstreet in front and Jackson in the rear, cutting off his railroad communications.

At Manassas Junction there was accumulated a vast quantity of stores of every kind for the maintenance of the army. The Twenty-first Georgia and the Twenty-first North Carolina regiments, under General Trimble, with a part of Stuart's cavalry, marched on to capture this vast prize. The defense was slight; three thousand prisoners were captured without the loss of a man on our side. Jackson's men fairly reveled in the abundance of luxuries. They took all they could and destroyed a million dollars' worth of stores. They had cut the enemy's communications, burnt the bridges behind him and destroyed his reserve supplies. Realizing the situation, Pope turned upon Jackson and a sanguinary fight occurred at Groveton, a few miles west of the old battle-field of Manassas.

Meanwhile Longstreet had marched behind the ridge and came through Thoroughfare Gap the next morning, joining Jackson upon the victorious field of the day before. The Federals had now retired to a stronger position—the identical position for which the struggle was made at the first battle of Manassas. On the next day the battle was joined upon the memorable field of 1861. The fighting was desperate. The combat lasted until dark and the victory was ours. When night came General Pope was beyond Bull Run on his

way to Washington and our men slept amid thousands of the dead of both armies.

When General Pope took command of the Army of the Potomac he issued an address, saying that he had come from the West, where he had always seen the backs of the enemy; he desired his men to dismiss from their minds such expressions as "lines of retreat" and "bases of supplies." "Let us," said he, "study the probable lines of retreat of our enemy. Success and glory are in the advance; disaster and shame lurk in the rear." That is just where he found them and from this time we hear no more of General John Pope until he turned up as a military governor of Georgia under the Radical reconstruction administration. With an army of fiftv-five thousand men, Lee had driven eighty thousand into the fortifications of Washington, had captured thirty guns, twenty thousand rifles, and taken seven thousand prisoners.

The Confederate losses in this campaign were eleven thousand, while the Federals lost seventeen thousand. Among the former were Generals Winder, Baylor, Taliaferro, Field and Corse; among the latter, Generals Kearney, Stevens, Bohlen, Taylor, and Fletcher Webster, the son of Daniel Webster.

## CHAPTER VII.

### SHARPSBURG.

General Lee gave his army but little rest. Richmond for the time being was safe. The Federals were utterly demoralized and were hugging the defenses of Washington. Virginia was exhausted by the waste of both armies and the desolation of war. The fertile fields of the Cumberland Valley offered abundant supplies, and the promise of recruits from Maryland was alluring. General Lee determined to invade Pennsylvania, and on September 5th, one week after the battle of Manassas, he crossed the Potomac and marched to Frederick City, Maryland.

The people of Frederick City showed no sympathy with him. Apparently they were all Unionists.

Harper's Ferry was held by the Federal Colonel Miles with twelve thousand men. It was determined to invest it. Generals Jackson, McLaws and Walker were sent to attack on three sides. Shut in with artillery threatening him from the surrounding heights, the Federal commander surrendered at discretion.

In the meantime Longstreet and D. H. Hill were sent on to Hagerstown. McClelland had been reinstated as commander of the Federal army and, with his extraordinary powers of organization, soon had his army in fine condition and fighting trim. He was a great favorite with his soldiers, and his reappearance at their head was hailed with exclamations of delight.

General McClelland was the most accomplished soldier on the Union side that the war produced. General Dick

Taylor said, "He impressed a generous, chivalric spirit on the war which soon faded away; and the future historian in recounting some of the later operations will doubt if he is dealing with campaigns of generals or expeditions of brigands."

Moving cautiously to meet and intercept Lee's advance, the Federal commander had no thought of giving offensive battle until one of those accidents of war occurred which changed the whole character of the campaign.

General Lee had sent a written order to his generals assigning positions to the different commands. A second copy of this command was sent by Stonewall Jackson to D. H. Hill. The first order was carelessly lost by the courier, picked up by a Federal scout and carried to McClelland. It gave him the key to all of General Lee's plans. Immediately McClelland planned an attack on Hill, while he sent General Franklin with fourteen thousand men to relieve Harper's Ferry. At Crampton's Gap, General Cobb's brigade and Mumford's cavalry, twenty-two hundred strong, held the pass. They were attacked by sixty-five hundred of Franklin's division and after a desperate fight were driven back, losing nearly half their men. General Franklin said this was the only battle up to that time in which the Army of the Potomac had been victorious.

Meanwhile, on the 14th of September, General D. H. Hill at Boonesboro, Md., was attacked by McClelland. The contention was over the passes of South Mountain. Thirteen thousand Federals were opposed to four thousand Confederates. The defense was stubborn and the position was held until the closing day, when the mountain passes were forced and the enemy held the commanding ridges. General Lee's situation was not an enviable one. His army was divided; Longstreet at Hagerstown, Hill retreating from Boonesboro,

Jackson and McLaws at Harper's Ferry, and the enemy in front with full possession of his plans. If McClelland had pushed his advance with any vigor, the Confederate army must have been annihilated.

General Hill retired on the next day and General Lee concentrated his army near Sharpsburg on the Antietam Creek, Jackson and McLaws having come up from the capture of Harper's Ferry and Longstreet marching down from Hagerstown.

The Confederates took their positions facing Antietam Creek, with the town of Sharpsburg behind them. The Federals were on the other side of the Creek and sought to cross it and attack Lee's flank.

Early on September 17th the bloodiest battle of the war was begun. McClelland hurled eighty-seven thousand men against Lee's thirty-nine thousand. All day the battle raged, now around the Dunkard's Church, where Jackson repelled the serried ranks of Hooker's men; now along the "bloody lane," where D. H. Hill met the fierce assaults of French; now at the bridge, where Toombs with a single brigade of Georgians kept back Burnside's Ninth Corps from Lee's flank. The slaughter was terrific. The position at Dunkard's Church was taken and retaken; the passage of the bridge was forced and the enemy driven back again; Hill gave back before the continued hammering of his antagonists and rallied again and again. One-fourth of Lee's army was killed or wounded and so exhausted were they by continuous marching and fighting and fasting that, although they slept upon the field of battle which they had held against such fearful odds, ten thousand fresh troops could have completely destroyed them.

But the Federal commander did not seize his opportunity. All the next day both armies remained in position. That

night General Lee withdrew his whole army across the Potomac and camped around Winchester.

In this battle Generals R. H. Anderson, Lawton, Walker, Gregg, Jones, Ripley, Rodes, Gordon and Pierce Young were wounded; Generals Branch, Starke, Garland and Geo. B. Anderson were killed. General D. H. Hill had three horses shot under him. The Federals lost Generals Reno, Richardson, Rodman, and Mansfield, killed, while Hooker, Hatch, Hartstuff, Gallagher, Sedgwick, Dana, Weber, Crawford, Ruger and Rutherford B. Hayes were wounded.

If such were the casualties among the general officers, what must have been the slaughter among the line who bore the brunt of the battle! So fearful was the carnage that a Federal patrol passing into the cornfield where the fighting was fiercest thought they had surprised a Confederate brigade. There in the shadow of the woods lay the skirmishers, their muskets beside them, and there in regular ranks lay the line of battle, sleeping, it seemed, the profound sleep of exhaustion. But the first man they touched was cold and lifeless, and the next, and the next; it was the bivouac of the dead.

General Longstreet relates that during a lull in the battle he, General Lee and General D. H. Hill went to a neighboring elevation to reconnoiter the field, the first two dismounting, but General Hill remaining on his horse. A battery across the creek opened fire on them. "There's a shot for General Hill," said Longstreet. No sooner said than a cannon-ball struck Hill's horse, going through both forelegs and bringing the poor animal to its knees.

Colonel Kingsbury, who was killed while gallantly leading a Connecticut regiment near "Burnside's Bridge," was brother-in-law to General D. R. Jones, who commanded the Confederates immediately opposing him. General Jones was deeply affected by his death. His health had not been good,

and he asked for leave of absence shortly afterwards and in a few months died.

The First Texas Regiment lost eighty-two per cent. of those who went into battle, and one company of the Twenty-sixth North Carolina lost ninety-six per cent. of those engaged. Another regiment, once eight hundred strong, went into the battle with forty-six muskets, and one of its companies, which had mustered one hundred men, had one lieutenant left to call the roll and one private to answer "Here."

Let one of them tell the tale.

The fight has begun. The regiment is lying prone upon a ridge, with rifles pointed and every sense alert, awaiting the advance of the enemy. The firing of the cannon is incessant. The boom now in concert, now as if in file, the hurtling shells hissing and screaming as they cut the air, then exploding with a loud report, the moaning of the minie-balls, singing the gamut as they pass and stopping with a thud as they strike, all make a scene of horror. A shell explodes not far above the prostrate line, tearing to pieces a soldier just beneath, shattering his form and bespattering those on either side with his blood. The body quivers a moment, then is still. Two others limp to the rear badly wounded. "Ready, men," speaks the quick tones of the officer. With clenched teeth and quivering nerves, the men await the coming of the foe. Their faces are pale, but not with fear; their hearts throb, but not with apprehension of defeat. "Steady, men; they are coming," say the officers in low tones. The click of the hammers as the guns are cocked is distinctly heard, and the supreme moment is come. Up the hill but out of sight come the advancing enemy; the loud commands of their officers, the clank of their equipments, the steady tramp of many feet are easily discerned. "Steady, boys! Don't fire until they get in full view," says the colonel. First above the crest

appears the gilt eagle that surmounts the pole, then the flag itself; then their hats come into view, and faces with curious eyes looking about them; then a hurrah: "Keep cool, men!" —and as the glistening bayonets appear—"Now fire!" A sheet of fire, a storm of lead pours straight into their breasts not fifty yards away. It staggers them, and as the smoke is blown away great gaps in their ranks are seen and on the ground forms in blue writhing in pain or lying quite still. "Forward! Charge them!" rings out the command; and that line of gray with a ringing yell springs up, delivers another volley, which is answered in return, and rushes with fierce assault upon the ranks of blue, which wavers first, then turns in flight.

## CHAPTER VIII.

### FREDERICKSBURG.

After the battle of Sharpsburg, both armies rested for a month. Then the Federals took up their march for Richmond by way of Fredericksburg. The middle of November found them on Stafford Heights, across the Rappahannock River, under the command of General Burnside, who had been appointed to supersede McClelland. General Lee had moved his army along with the other and held Fredericksburg. Behind the town is a ridge extending for several miles, and here he placed his batteries. On this ridge is Marye's Hill, so called from its owner, whose residence overlooks the city a mile away.

The Federal General Sumner demanded the surrender of the city and threatened to bombard it if refused. This caused the exodus of women and children, who, in carriages, in carts and on foot, tramped to the rear with such valuables as they could carry, leaving their homes with no expectation of ever seeing them again except in ruins.

Three weeks were spent in fortifying the positions on both sides, the Confederates with three hundred and six cannon, the Federals with three hundred and seven. On December 11th the Federals fired the signal gun for the advance and attempted to cross the Rappahannock on pontoon bridges. Barksdale's Mississippians were posted on the river bank, with the Third Georgia Regiment in reserve. The pickets drove off the bridge-builders until the attempt was abandoned. Then after a terrific fire of artillery which crushed the houses like eggshells, the enemy repeated the attempt, crossed the river,

gained a foothold, were reinforced and took possession of the town.

All the next day they were sending over their troops and taking positions in the town, and at a point about five miles below on the railroad known as Hamilton's Crossing.

At the foot of Marye's Hill, running out of Fredericksburg into the country, is a sunken road, washed out below the level of the adjacent ground, with retaining walls of stone on either side about breast high. In this road Cobb's brigade of Georgians with the Twenty-fifth North Carolina Regiment was stationed to meet the Federal advance, with the remainder of Longstreet's Corps in reserve on the slope of the hill and beyond. The heights above were crowned with artillery under General E. P. Alexander.

At Hamilton's Crossing Stonewall Jackson, supported by D. H. Hill, was awaiting the enemy's advance. In this position sixty-nine thousand Confederates were confronted by one hundred and thirty-two thousand Federals.

The morning of December 13th broke, but the opposing armies were hid from each other by an impenetrable mist. About ten o'clock the fog lifted and the battle was begun. Meade's men at the crossing marched with steady tread until they were halted by a deadly fire from Jackson's ranks. In alternate advance and retreat the fight continued until two o'clock, when the Federals withdrew a little, leaving the railroad in our lines.

In the meantime a fierce but forlorn onslaught was made on Marye's Hill. Coming out from town the assaulting column of the enemy formed behind a slight swell in the ground and advanced, only to give way before the galling fire from the stone wall. And thus in succession fourteen brigades under French, Hancock, Sturges, Getty, Griffin, Humphrey and Sykes, marched gallantly to meet death and destruction be-

fore the sheets of flame and lead which poured upon them from the sunken road.

About one o'clock General Thomas R. R. Cobb was killed. General Kershaw with his brigade of South Carolinians and Ransom's North Carolinians, reinforced the gallant Georgians and the road was now filled with men, the rear ranks loading and passing the guns to the front so that the firing was incessant. Only night put an end to the slaughter.

The bravery of these charges against the stone wall in the face of death and certain defeat, has never been surpassed, and the morning light revealed a field covered with piles and cross-piles of the dead and wounded. One soldier came within one hundred feet of the stone wall before he fell, and a few scattering ones close behind him were all killed. Few prisoners were taken there, but eight thousand of the flower of the Federal army lay stretched upon that fatal field of battle.

It was General Burnside's intention to renew the attack the next morning, but his generals urged him not to do so, and on the 15th of December he recrossed the river and sent his troops to their camps at Falmouth, and both armies went into winter quarters.

The battle of Fredericksburg restored the esprit of our army and greatly depressed the North. It was believed in the South that peace would be declared in sixty days.

## CHAPTER IX.

### CHANCELLORSVILLE.

Burnside's failure was followed by his removal, and General Hooker—"Fighting Joe Hooker," as he was called—was placed in command. Late in April, 1863, he made the fifth advance upon the Confederate capital, this time crossing the Rappahannock above Fredericksburg, with the design of flanking General Lee, who still held that place. The movement brought about the battle of Chancellorsville.

The 30th of April found Hooker at Chancellorsville, ten miles from Fredericksburg, with fifty thousand men. General Sickles with eighteen thousand men was within reach.

Sedgwick with forty thousand was on the other side of Lee, below Fredericksburg. Thirteen thousand Federal cavalry threatened his communications. Lee's forty-nine thousand ragged veterans were almost surrounded by one hundred and twenty-one thousand of the best equipped army in the world.

But General Lee rose to the occasion. He was between the divided wings of the enemy and he prepared to deliver double battle. He moved nearer to Chancellorsville, leaving Early to hold Sedgwick back with eighty-five hundred men. In the dense wilderness of scrub oak, threaded by a few narrow roads, Hooker held a position of great strength.

General Lee held the attention of the enemy in front while he sent Stonewall Jackson by a circuitous route around Hooker's rear. About 5 o'clock P. M. the Confederate yell rang out in Howard's rear and sent terror to the heart of the

foe. With Lee in front and Jackson behind them, bewildered by the close undergrowth, knowing not which way to turn, what could they expect but defeat!

Darkness fell upon the field. General Jackson rode out about nine o'clock to reconnoitre. As he came back the pickets began firing. A North Carolina regiment, mistaking the party for the enemy fired into them. Two were killed and General Jackson was severely wounded. Then A. P. Hill was stricken down. Both were carried off the field and Stuart took command.

Sunday morning, May 3d, General Lee attacked Hooker on three sides simultaneously. A cross-fire from well-posted batteries made the Federal position untenable. Three times it was captured and three times retaken by the stubborn foe. At ten o'clock General Hooker was wounded and his army was soon in retreat. General Lee rode with his troops in pursuit. The air was filled with shells; the woods were on fire; but as the beloved leader came into view, his victorious soldiers, the wounded and the dying, cheered him above the din of battle.

At the same time what is called the second battle of Fredericksburg was fought. Sedgwick had driven back the one thousand Mississippians under Barksdale. McLaws met him and repulsed him, while Early got in his rear, retook Marye's Hill and forced him across the Rappahannock. Two days later the entire Federal army was in its old camp at Falmouth, across the river.

The short campaign of a week had cost the enemy seventeen thousand men, fourteen guns and twenty thousand stand of arms. The Confederate victory was dearly bought. General Stonewall Jackson died on May 10th of the wounds received by the fatal blunder of his own men—a peerless soldier, an humble Christian.

## CHAPTER X.

### GETTYSBURG.

After his disastrous defeat at Chancellorsville, General Hooker was relieved, as was usual, and General George Meade was appointed in his place.

General Lee reorganized his army into three corps under Longstreet, Ewell and A. P. Hill, respectively. In June General Lee determined to invade Pennsylvania with the hope of drawing troops from the Federal army in the West, where they were getting the better of our men, and also to relieve Virginia for a time of the exhaustion of an army occupation.

June 27, 1863, found the Confederate army at Chambersburg, Pa., northwest of Gettysburg, while consternation reigned at Washington. Meade's whole army was called to the north of the Potomac. Mr. Lincoln prayed, "O Lord, this is your fight, but we, your humble servants, can't stand another Fredericksburg or Chancellorsville."

A few days later General Lee moved forward to Gettysburg and towards the enemy. Unfortunately for him, Stuart, with his cavalry, had gone on a raid around the Federal army. The cavalry is the eyes of the army; it discovers the location of the enemy and reports his movements. With the cavalry gone Lee was blind and groped about, not knowing where the enemy was until he ran against him. This fact enabled General Meade to select his own position and brought on the contest at Gettysburg, when it was General Lee's intention to fight farther south. It forced Lee to attack a strong position defended by superior numbers, instead of being attacked as at Fredericksburg in entrenchments of his own choosing.

But, finding the enemy in possession, he must either drive him back or retreat himself.

On July 1st the Federals were driven out of Gettysburg to the stronger position on Cemetery Ridge. Cemetery Ridge begins at the cemetery just outside the town of Gettysburg and extends about two miles, terminating in two rocky excrescences called Round Top and Little Round Top.

On the 2d of July the other divisions of Lee's army gathered at Gettysburg. It was scattered from Chambersburg to Harrisburg. General Gordon had laid the City of York under contribution to purchase her safety. Stuart came in from his long ride, his men wearied and his horses jaded, having accomplished nothing of importance. Longstreet's Corps marched twenty-four miles to the rendezvous.

The Federal lines formed along the ridge in the shape of a fish-hook. Culp's Hill was the point of the hook, while Round Top was at the end where the line is tied. General Lee disposed his forces around this fish-hook and planned his attack. It was his intention that Ewell should carry Culp's Hill and Longstreet follow the attack by an advance upon the ridge, thus striking the enemy in front and rear, while a battery on Round Top would hurl its thunderbolts from that commanding height. When his plans miscarried, he exactly reversed the order for the next day. Longstreet was ordered to begin the attack in front, while Ewell should follow with a charge around the other side of the curve.

It was General Lee's intention to attack early on the 2d of July. If he had done so, he would have taken the enemy in detail and would undoubtedly have driven him from the ridge. But it was impossible to get his troops up in time. The attack was made at four o'clock in the afternoon. It was too late. The Federals had massed their guns upon the ridge, supported by fifty thousand infantry. But for all that Gen-

eral Meade ordered his chief of staff to prepare an order for the retreat of his army.

Ewell was slow to advance against the rocky sides of Culp's Hill, but once in motion, the wild Confederate yell re-echoed from the height as Edward Johnson's men fought their way to its summit. Longstreet's hardy veterans advanced with steady step to the attack upon the other side. Sickles was driven back from the Peach Orchard. Law's Alabamians passed clear over Round Top. Wright's Georgians pushed up the long slope of Cemetery Ridge, leaped fences and possessed the crest, capturing twenty cannon. But Longstreet was not supported, and could not hold what he had gained. In the face of overwhelming numbers the Confederates slowly retired and night found them on the field a little in advance of where they had started.

General Lee was still confident of success. His men had met superior numbers behind defenses and had defeated them. His artillery was in place in advantageous positions. The Southern army was eager for the fight.

On the next day the advance was again delayed far beyond the time the commanding general had set. The sun stood at high noon when Alexander's guns opened the conflict. The crash of that duel in which two hundred guns belched forth fire and shot and shell was of surpassing grandeur. After half an hour the fire slackened. Then Pickett, with Pettigrew and Trimble, ordered their men to charge. Twelve thousand veterans in two lines of battle struck across the open plain a mile wide in the face of the batteries on Cemetery Ridge. When the column was within one hundred yards of the stone wall, the Federal line broke. The Confederates sent a blazing volley into the fleeing enemy and with far-resounding yells rushed upon the wall, captured many prisoners and silenced the guns. The carnage was fearful. Nearly

every officer on both sides above the grade of captain lay bleeding among hundreds of fallen soldiers. But their victory was of short duration.

The Federals rallied with heavy reinforcements. Coming from the flanks they swarmed around the Southern troops, capturing four thousand. The attack had failed, but "Pickett's Charge" took its place in history alongside of the Charge of the Light Brigade at Balaklava. General Lee recognized that the campaign was ended and prepared to retreat.

## CHAPTER XI.

### THE RETREAT AND MINE RUN.

General Lee never appeared grander than after the loss of Gettysburg. As his men returned from that charge, he cheered them with words of encouragement. He said: "This has been my fault. It is I that have lost this fight, and you must help me out of it."

A Federal soldier relates that as he lay upon the ground wounded, General Lee passed by on the retreat. "Hurrah for the Union!" he cried, gloating over the defeat. General Lee stopped his horse and turned towards him. Said he: "I expected him to draw his pistol and shoot me dead for insulting him. But looking on me with infinite tenderness, he said, 'My son, you are badly hurt. . I hope you may soon be well and at home with your own friends.' He almost broke my heart, and I did not wonder that this great man's soldiers would go into the jaws of death at his command."

General Lee reformed his shattered brigades and turned his face again towards the South. The enemy did not pursue and without molestation the Army of Northern Virginia recrossed the Potomac.

The losses at Gettysburg were appalling. Meade lost twenty-three thousand of the ninety-five thousand who followed him to that field. Of fifty-eight thousand, including cavalry, which did not arrive till the last day, General Lee lost twenty thousand. Generals Armistead, Pender, Barksdale, Garnett and Semmes were killed. Kemper, Pettigrew, Hood, Heth, Trimble, Jenkins, Anderson, Scales, Hampton and Fry were wounded and General Archer was taken prison-

er. Of the Federals, Generals Cross, Zook, Reynolds, Willard, Weed and Farnsworth were killed. Hancock, Gibbon, Barlow, Paul, Stone, Stannard, Brooke, Webb and Sickles were wounded, and General Graham was captured.

The Confederate cause reached high water-mark at Gettysburg. With the failure of Pickett's charge began the ebb of the tide and it soon became only a question of time when the end would come.

## MINE RUN.

After the retreat from Gettysburg the Army of Northern Virginia rested behind the Rapidan until the following spring, undisturbed save by a futile advance of General Meade at Mine Run.

Early on November 26th Meade attempted the sixth advance on Richmond and crossed the Rapidan with two corps at Culpepper Mine, while three other corps were to seek a passage higher up. General Lee was well informed of his designs, and arrayed his men along the rough banks of Mine Run quite ready to receive the attack. When General Meade found one hundred and fifty guns waiting to greet him, he paused to consider further. The assault was planned for daylight on November 30th, but daylight revealed frowning breastworks so well defended that the corps commanders were unwilling to assault, foreseeing nothing but destruction to their troops. So, angry and chagrined, General Meade led back his men to the camps they had left so gaily.

## CHAPTER XII.

### THE WILDERNESS AND SPOTTSYLVANIA.

The Washington government decided to make still another change, and called General U. S. Grant from the West, where the capture of Vicksburg and the battle of Missionary Ridge had cast quit a lustre over his name, and made him general-in-chief over all the armies of the United States. General Grant came to Virginia and assumed command and in May, 1864, began the system of hammering away continuously until he should have worn out the Southern army. It may be said here that this was the true policy from his standpoint. The North had plenty of men and plenty of resources. The South had no more men to take the places of those who fell, and no resources to draw upon to sustain those who were left. When Grant took a prisoner he sent him to prison. All proposals to exchange prisoners were rejected. He said an exchanged prisoner made another Southern soldier, which was true. The fatality of such a policy was fearful. The losses in battle and the deaths in prison on both sides were enormous, and the responsibility of this death-rate rests upon General Grant, but it brought an end to the war.

The 4th of May found General Grant with one hundred and twenty thousand men in arms moving against sixty-two thousand under General Lee. The Rapidan was crossed not far from Chancellorsville and the columns pushed into the Wilderness. Lee, fully apprised of the movements of the enemy, adjusted his lines to meet the advance.

Two roads run through the Wilderness to Fredericksburg. Along these roads Stonewall Jackson just a twelvemonth be-

fore had attacked Hooker's rear at Chancellorsville, only five miles away, and from the same direction Lee, now taking the initiative, attacked Grant. The battle raged from noon till dark. Longstreet, far away at Orange Court House, is urged by courier after courier to hasten. At dawn the next day Hancock charges and breaks our line, but is held at bay. When the sun is well up Longstreet's first corps comes swinging down the road to the battle. General Lee meets the Texas brigade and calls out "What boys are these?" "Texas boys," is the answer. "Charge, my Texas boys!" as he advances to the fight. But the Texans cry out, "Go back, General Lee!" "General Lee to the rear! Lee to the rear!" and a tall soldier from the ranks, catching his bridle, turns Traveler's head to the rear. The Texans charged with yells, but half the brigade fell before that terrific fire. Longstreet took Hancock on the flank and rolled up his regiments "like a wet blanket," as Hancock himself said.

About midday the fatal blunder which lost Stonewall Jackson to the Confederacy was repeated. General Longstreet, in moving around the enemy, came in front of his own men. Mistaken for Federal officers, in the smoke and thick shrubbery, they were fired upon. General Jenkins was killed and General Longstreet so seriously wounded that he had to be taken from the field. Night fell with all the advantages of the battle with the Confederates. Morning broke upon both armies behind strong entrenchments, neither wishing to attack the other.

General Grant had said that his object was to find Lee and whip him if he would fight. He had found him and he had fought, but Lee had done all the whipping.

Spottsylvania Court House is about fifteen miles from the Wilderness battle-field, in the direction of Richmond. On the morning of May 7th, when he saw that General Grant did

not attack, General Lee intuitively knew that Grant would move to Spottsylvania. General Lee ordered a road cut through the forest intersecting the road to Spottsylvania, and at dark made a night march to that place. He made no mistake. Grant at the same time moved forward on the other road, but when the sun rose he found his alert enemy in possession of the coveted position. Lee had won the race. Occupying the ridge he fortified himself and awaited the advance of the foe.

On the morning of the 10th the Federal army was hurled forward in an attack all along the line. The fighting was furious. Lead fell like hail. A tree a foot and a half through was cut down by the bullets. The woods were on fire, and the wounded who had escaped death by the guns now found it in the flames.

A day of partial rest followed. At dawn on May the 12th in the morning mist, Hancock charged a salient, captured General Edward Johnson and his entire division of twenty-eight hundred men and twenty cannon. Disaster threatened the Southern army. Lane's North Carolinians and Gordon's Georgians came to the rescue. General Lee took his place to lead the division.

"This is no place for General Lee," said Gordon, and the soldiers took it up, "General Lee to the rear!" until the beloved leader was forced to go back. Then Gordon charged, and planted his colors upon the breastworks. But on the left Harris's Mississippians and the North Carolinians under Ramseur and McGowan's South Carolinians fought desperately to recover the lost salient.

All day the carnage continued. On each side the fortification men grappled and dragged one another across the logs. They climbed up and fired into the very faces of the foe and dropped dead on top the breastworks. There were none to

relieve these heroes. Every other brigade was busy with its own front. There was no reserve. But they stood their ground, "without food or drink or rest, in the falling rain, in bloody trenches, loading and firing through the watches of the night." So waged the battle at the "Bloody Angle."

The next morning the troops were withdrawn to a stronger line.

For five days the two armies lay watching each other—then Grant sent twelve thousand men to storm the salient again; but the fire of twenty-nine guns from the new line drove them back before they came in range of the riflemen. Another day saw Grant moving off towards Fredericksburg. He had lost thirty-seven thousand men in his two weeks' campaign, and had gained nothing. The Federal losses in the Wilderness campaign exceeded the combined casualties of all the wars in which the Americans had ever engaged before.

## CHAPTER XIII.

### NORTH ANNA AND COLD HARBOR.

Attempting to cross the North Anna River, General Grant found his watchful antagonist in his front and was driven back. He had crossed this river at two places, thinking to attack Lee in front and rear, but Lee quietly thrust himself between the two divisions of the Federal army in the shape of a wedge, the point resting upon a loop of the river. A glance at the map will show that General Lee had checkmated his opponent. Half of Grant's army was above the loop and half below with Lee between them, so that neither could give assistance to the other without a double crossing of the North Anna.

On the morning of the 27th of May not a Federal soldier was to be seen. They had recrossed the river and were heading for the South. Moving further south, Grant sought to cross the Pamunky and seize Richmond, but he found the entire Confederate army athwart his path. And so foiled at every attempt, the first of June found him at Cold Harbor on the identical ground occupied by McClelland two years before.

For fifty-six hours, without food or rest, the veterans of Lee's army had marched to outstrip the enemy and occupied the same position at Cold Harbor which they had assaulted in 1862.

Their defenses were full of salients. Cannon had been placed so as to cross-fire any advance of the enemy. At early dawn on June 3d Grant made an assault "all along the line." The advancing columns were enfiladed by a hundred guns,

which, without cessation, belched forth grape and shrapnel, while the riflemen behind the breastworks with accurate aim poured a leaden hail into the faces of the foe. The slaughter was simply terrific. No army on earth could live before that fire. The attack was over in forty minutes, but eleven thousand Federal soldiers lay stretched upon the ground dead or wounded. At nine o'clock General Grant ordered his generals to renew the attack. They refused to obey the order.

For two days the Federal wounded lay upon the field in the hot July sun without water or food. Their suffering was unspeakable. After two days General Grant sought to relieve them by sending a flag of truce, but what horrors had he left the poor fellows to endure by that delay!

Desultory fighting was kept up until the night of June the 12th, when General Grant crossed the Chickahominy. His campaign had proved a disastrous failure. He had attempted to reach Richmond from the North, but failed, and now he was seeking to find an entrance from the South. In thirty days he had lost fifty-five thousand men; more men than Lee's entire army engaged; and if all the men he lost had been laid head to foot in one long line, they would have reached from the Wilderness to Cold Harbor!

## CHAPTER XIV.

### PETERSBURG.

Crossing the Chickahominy General Grant moved on Petersburg. There he was confronted by Beauregard and after three days' fighting, from June 15th to 18th, losing ten thousand more men, he settled down behind entrenchments to besiege the city. Both armies were protected by fortifications of every description and either was afraid to attack the other. The Federal commander sat for nine months patiently waiting for his opponent to die from natural causes.

In the meantime in July, 1864, General Lee sent General Early to threaten Washington, hoping to draw off a part of General Grant's forces from his front.

Early, with the gallant Gordon, crossed the Potomac and took the old route to Pennsylvania. Consternation reigned in Washington again. General Lew Wallace came out to meet Early, but was routed in the battle of Monocacy. On July 11th, Early was in full view of the spires of Washington. Reinforcements were hurried from the field and the defenses of the city manned at every point. Early retired across the Potomac, after sending some cavalrymen to burn Chambersburg in retaliation for Hunter's outrages in the valley of Virginia.

For the protection of Washington General Sheridan organized a distinct army, and with forty-eight thousand men assailed Early's twelve thousand at Winchester, driving him from the field. But a month later the tables were turned in the surprise at Cedar Creek, when General Gordon, with but a fourth of their number fell upon a Federal camp at day-

light. The surprise was complete. The startled Federals left artillery, baggage, arms, clothing, and canteens—everything—and fled, rushing madly towards Winchester. No such rout had been seen since Bull Run. The camp was full of valuable booty. The hungry, ragged Confederates, instead of following up their victory, stopped to plunder the camp—and who can condemn them for it? Their necessity was their excuse.

Sheridan met his fugitives near Newtown, rallied them, and facing them about, returned to the attack. The Confederates, taken unprepared, retired, but with the loss of the brave Ramseur.

To return to Petersburg. A fearful incident of the siege was the explosion of the Crater. From the point on the Confederate lines known as Elliot's Salient, the Federal rifle-pits were only one hundred yards distant. Miners were put to work to dig a tunnel under this salient, excavating on either side and filling it with eight thousand pounds of powder. Grant's plan was immediately after the explosion to send half his army right through, capture Petersburg and strike Lee's army in the rear.

The mine was exploded and a crater thirty feet deep, thirty-five feet long and ninety-seven feet wide gaped wide open. A whole brigade of South Carolinians was blown into the air, with muskets, pieces of gun carriages and debris of every kind, and two hundred and fifty-six were buried by the explosion. A brigade of negro soldiers from the Federal lines was sent forward, but stopped in the Crater. The Confederates rallied and turned their guns upon them. Another brigade of Federals was sent in. Then cannister and minie-balls carried destruction into the pit of death. Caught like rats in a trap, they "found the humor of the breach too hot." The poor wretches could neither get out nor go back, and it was

death to remain. And so that July day passed with dreadful suffering and the Federal roll was diminished four thousand by the experiment of the Crater.

In the month of August General Hancock with two divisions established himself at Ream's Station on the Weldon Railroad and began to tear up the tracks. A. P. Hill with Hampton's cavalry fell upon him first with artillery then with infantry, followed by a charge. The victory was complete. Hancock, who had never seen his men driven like that, with deep mortification said, "I do not care to die, but I pray God I may never leave this field." Nine guns, twelve stand of colors and twenty-one hundred and fifty prisoners were the spoils of the Confederates. In this and other attacks on the Weldon Railroad the Federals confessed to a loss of seven thousand men.

## CHAPTER XV.

### APPOMATTOX.

The fall and winter dragged their slow length along. The Army of Northern Virginia was getting more ragged and more emaciated every day. Thousands were without socks or shoes and the best clothes they had were those captured from the enemy.

But these ragged veterans were inured to hardships. Before the battle of Fredericksburg, more than three thousand of them began the winter without a blanket, and but half clothed. In April their daily ration was a little corn and a quarter of a pound of bacon; and General Lee issued orders to them to gather a supply of sassafras buds, wild onions, and poke sprouts to supplement their scanty fare. The campaign of Sharpsburg was fought on rations of apples and green corn. From Hanover Junction to Cold Harbor but two rations were issued; one contained three hard biscuits and a small slice of pork; two days later each man received one cracker! What wonder that an Irishman, badly wounded on the field, called to his comrades, "Charge them, boys! They've got *chase* in their haversacks!"

But no word of complaint fell from the bloodless lips of these heroes. Cheerfully they endured all these hardships, and responded with alacrity to every call that was made on them. There were no recruits. Privation and disease and the enemy's sharpshooters depleted their ranks until, as General Lee said, the line had stretched until it was about to break.

About the middle of March, 1865, the forces of Early in

the valley having been scattered, and present apprehension of the safety of Washington from that quarter having been removed, General Sheridan marched with ten thousand cavalry to swell the total of Grant's army before Petersburg to one hundred and eleven thousand.

On the 27th General Grant started his move around the right of the Confederate army. General Lee, fully aware of his purpose, moved to the right to confront him. At Five Forks, with a boldness that bordered upon rashness, Lee attacked and drove Sheridan back.

Rallying on the morrow with reinforcements, Sheridan assaulted Pickett, but with poor success until he gained his flank and rear. Then, realizing that the battle was lost, it became with the Confederates *sauve qui peut.* Following the success at Five Forks, on April 1st a general assault upon Petersburg was ordered. The Confederate line was stretched to the utmost and before the pressure of overwhelming numbers it gave way, now here, now there, but not without delivering a final blow in return.

Petersburg was evacuated and in its last defense Lieutenant General A. P. Hill was killed. He was a gallant soldier. His name was the last upon the lips of the South's greatest generals. Stonewall Jackson, in his delirium, cried, "A. P. Hill, prepare for action!" General Lee, just before he expired, exclaimed, "Tell Hill he must come up!"

Richmond was evacuated. Lee retired with his famished soldiers towards Lynchburg, expecting supply trains to meet him. Alas! they had been captured and destroyed. Ewell's Corps, now depleted to three thousand men, was surrounded at Sailors' Creek and made prisoners. Longstreet and Gordon had crossed the Appomattox, but it was apparent that the end was near.

So, in the interests of humanity, on the 9th day of April, 1865, at Appomattox Court House, with twenty-eight thousand men of all arms, who for nine long months had held at bay one hundred thousand, Robert E. Lee surrendered the ragged remnants of the finest army the world ever saw.

MAP OF
KENTUCKY AND TENNESSEE
SCALE OF STATUTE MILES
10 30 50 100
90
89
88
87
86
85
Alton
St. Louis
Mississippi R.
St. Genevieve
Pilot Knob
Ironton
Ohio R.
Cairo
Commerce
Bird's Point
Paducah
Belmont
Columbus
New Madrid
Hickman
Ft. Henry
Ft. Donelson
Island No. 10
Union City
Paris
Obion R.
Reelfoot Lake
Tennessee R.
Dover
Clarksville
Hopkinsville
Evansville
Henderson
Owensboro
Wabash R.
Green R.
Elizabethtown
Bowling Green
Glasgow
Franklin
Gallatin
Carthage
Cumberland R.
Nashville
Franklin
Murfreesboro
Stones R.
Duck R.
Columbia
Mc Minnville
Pulaski
Tullahoma
Winchester
Stevenson
Huntsville
Decatur
Tuscumbia
Florence
Muscle Shoals
Athens
Pulaski
Savannah
Pittsburg Landing
Shiloh
Corinth
Iuka
Holly Springs
Jackson
Ft. Pillow
Ft. Randolph
Ft. Harris
Memphis
Osceola
White R.
Arkansas R.
Mississippi
Madison
Jeffersonville
New Albany
Louisville
Kentucky R.
Salt R.
Licking R.
Big Sandy R.
Covington
Newport
Cincinnati
Maysville
Vanceburg
Cynthiana
Paris
Lexington
Camp Dick Robinson
Danville
Bardstown
Perryville
Elizabethtown
Frankfort
Jackson
Mt. Vernon
Somerset
London
Whitesburg
Barbourville
Cumberland Gap
Jamestown
Mill Springs
Green R.
Cave City
Munfordville
Hills Grensburg
Lebanon
Big Barren R.
Cumberland Mts.
Cumberland Gap
Jacksboro
Tazewell
Holston R.
Jonesboro
Morristown
Greenville
Knoxville
Loudon
Athens
Great Smoky Mts.
Clinch R.
Hiwassee R.
Cleveland
Chattanooga
Dalton
Tennessee R.
Lookout Mt.
Alabama
Georgia
North Carolina
South Carolina
Savannah R.
Ohio
Virginia
Kentucky
Tennessee
Illinois
Mississippi
Arkansas

## CHAPTER XVI.

### THE WESTERN CAMPAIGNS.

In passing from the operations in Virginia to those in the West, it is appropriate to say a word in behalf of the Western Army. Comparisons between the Army of Northern Virginia and the Army of Tennessee have often been made to the disparagement of the latter. The soldier in one was as good as in the other. In each there were Alabamians and Carolinians; troops from all the States were in both armies; all were Southerners. But it must be remembered there was but one General Lee. The world does not produce two such men in the same generation. The division commanders in one were not superior to those in the other. Virginia had her Stuart, Tennessee her Forrest. Jackson was no braver than Polk, nor Gordon more gallant than Cleburne. If Hill and Hoke and McLaws knew no fear of the enemy, neither did Cheatham nor Hardee nor Van Dorn. In Virginia the Federal army had but two objects, the capture of Richmond and the protection of Washington. In the West an army quite as numerous and as well equipped had no capital in its rear to guard, but sought to overrun the whole country.

Nor was it until they had concentrated at Chattanooga that the two opposing armies employed their full strength against each other.

Like the Federals in Virginia, the Confederates in Tennessee suffered from too many commanders. The prejudices of the administration retained too long chiefs who were inefficient, and hampered those of approved ability. But none

suffered hardships more uncomplainingly, none fought the enemy more fiercely, and none served his country more cheerfully than the soldier of the Army of Tennessee.

The Western campaigns designated by the names of the principal battles in each will be known as Shiloh, Perryville, Murfreesboro, Vicksburg, Chickamauga, Atlanta and Franklin.

In September, 1861, General Albert Sidney Johnston was assigned to the command of the Department of the West. He immediately determined to seize Bowling Green, Ky., and, sending General Buckner there with five thousand men, he himself followed and made it his headquarters. At the same time a Confederate force, under General Leonidas Polk, was occupying Columbus, Ky., on the Mississippi River. A part of this force had been sent across the river in command of General Pillow, and was in camp at Belmont, Mo.

General U. S. Grant, then unknown to fame, was at Paducah, Ky. He moved down the river and attacked the Confederates, driving in the advance and capturing the camp; but General Polk sent reinforcements, the Federals were repulsed and routed, and General Grant scored his first defeat.

### FORTS HENRY AND DONELSON.

The Tennessee River was defended by a garrison at Fort Henry, and the Cumberland River was protected by Fort Donelson. The two were about twelve miles apart across the ridge dividing the rivers.

Finding the defenses at Columbus too strong to attack, in February, 1862, a fleet of gunboats moved upon Fort Henry. After a furious bombardment the guns of the fort were disabled. General Grant was advancing with twenty-five thousand men. Seeing it was impossible to hold the fort, General Tilghman sent the garrison across to Fort Donelson, re-

taining seventy-eight men to serve the guns until they were safely away, and then surrendered Fort Henry to Admiral Foote.

Fort Donelson was then invested on the land side by General Grant, while the gunboats supported him on the river. Seventeen thousand Confederate troops had been gathered at that point under Generals Floyd, Pillow, and Buckner. Reinforcements brought the Federal army up to twenty-seven thousand men, who attacked on every side. The assault lasted three days, when, finding their condition desperate, General Floyd turned over the command to Pillow, and escaped in the boats with a brigade of Virginians. Pillow in turn passed the command to Buckner and escaped. General Buckner said he would stay by his men and share their fate. Forrest swore he would not surrender, and, assembling his men plunged into the icy water and was next heard of at Nashville. Then General Buckner entered into negotiations with General Grant and surrendered with nine thousand troops.

The commanding general incurred severe censure for the fall of Donelson, and deputations of citizens from Tennessee went to the President to demand his removal. But Mr. Davis said, "If Sidney Johnston is not a general, then I have none."

The fall of Fort Donelson was a disaster from which the Army of the West never recovered. There is no doubt that the entire garrison might have escaped had General Floyd heeded Forrest's advice. Their capture was due partly to the situation not being defensible from a land side attack, but chiefly to the refusal of General Floyd to fight his way out.

The surrender of Fort Donelson left the Cumberland River open to Nashville. The Tennessee River was open to North Alabama. So General Johnston withdrew from Bowling Green, Columbus and Nashville were evacuated and the army

fell back to Corinth, Miss., with the intention of protecting the Mississippi Valley. Here they were joined by General Bragg with ten thousand men from Pensacola and by Beauregard with seven thousand from Memphis, bringing the aggregate of the Army of Tennessee up to forty thousand men.

## CHAPTER XVII.

### SHILOH.

Early in April, 1862, General Grant assembled his forces at Pittsburg Landing on the Tennessee River and awaited the arrival of Buell, who was marching overland from Nashville. Sidney Johnston with the divisions of Polk, Bragg, Hardee and Breckenridge, marched from Corinth to attack him, with Beauregard second in command.

At daylight on April the 6th the Confederates struck the enemy's outposts and the battle was begun. With thirty-nine thousand men, they attacked forty-nine thousand in a position of their own choosing. The attack was a surprise. Grant said, "I did not believe Beauregard was such a fool as to leave his base of operations and attack us in ours."

Hindman's Mississippians found Prentiss's men in camp eating their breakfast and captured a whole brigade. The Federal flanks were turned and driven in pell-mell.

At one point they massed their troops and the desperate fighting over the position gave it the name of the "Hornet's Nest." Here behind a dense thicket on the crest of a hill, protected by defenses of logs and brush, the flower of Grant's army was gathered. As at Fredericksburg, an open field must be crossed to assail it. For five hours brigade after brigade braved the deadly peril of the assault. Hindman's division was reduced to fragments; A. P. Stewart's regiments were decimated; Gibbon's Louisianians had suffered a bloody repulse; and Cheatham and Breckenridge had moved up. Then Sidney Johnston cried, "Men, we must give them the bayonet!

I will lead you," and the line charged with a mighty yell. A sheet of flame from the Federal guns poured destruction into their midst. The line withered, but there was no pause. The crest was gained, the position taken and the enemy was in flight.

At six o'clock the Federals had been driven back to the river. The victorious Confederates had possessed all of his encampments but one, nearly all his field artillery, thirty flags, three thousand prisoners and thousands of small arms and munitions of war.

At this juncture nothing was needed to complete the annihilation of the Federal army but to vigorously follow up the victory. This was the situation: Grant's army had been driven back from their positions into a corner with the Tennessee River on one side, a creek and a swamp on the other, and the victorious Confederates in front. They could not cross the river, the swamp was impassable, and the Confederates irresistible. They were indeed "betwixt the devil and the deep sea." But alas! General Johnston had been shot by a minie-ball as he sat on his horse. The artery in his leg was cut, and because no one was near to stop the bleeding he quickly bled to death.

The command devolved upon General Beauregard. Beauregard was sick, lying upon an ambulance cot in the rear. He had not approved of the attack in the morning, thinking too much time had been lost. Without perhaps appreciating the state of the battle he gave orders to withdraw the troops. Fatal blunder! to snatch from his army the fruits of their victory just as they were about to pluck them. The army fell back and Grant was saved from ruin.

There can be no doubt that if Sidney Johnston had lived through the day, the entire Federal army would have been captured and destroyed, and General Grant, in all probability,

would never have been heard of again. But, as Touchstone says, "There's much virtue in *if*."

That night General Buell crossed the river and reinforced the Federals with twenty-two thousand fresh men, and the next day Beauregard retreated to Corinth. The Federals followed with an army of eighty thousand, so slowly that it was not until a month after the battle of Shiloh that they appeared before the lines at Corinth. Then unwilling to hazard an attack, Beauregard retreated further south, to Tupelo, Miss., and, being too ill to attend to the duties of the position, he transferred the command to General Bragg.

## CHAPTER XVIII.

### NEW ORLEANS.

In the meantime New Orleans had fallen. Admiral Farragut, with a powerful fleet of ironclads, had passed the protecting forts below, and demanded the surrender of the city, which the Confederate troops had evacuated to prevent its bombardment. The infamous Benjamin F. Butler was placed in command of the city and began a terrorized reign of pillage and insult which gained for him the well-deserved soubriquets of "Spoons" and "Beast," and caused President Davis to set a price upon his head as a common outlaw.

The Mississippi River was now completely in possession of the enemy, except from Vicksburg to Port Hudson, a distance of sixty miles, which formed the connecting link between the East and the West. At Vicksburg strong defenses under the command of General Martin L. Smith, blocked the passage of the river.

### THE KENTUCKY CAMPAIGN.

In July, 1862, Kirby Smith, with twelve thousand Confederates, held East Tennessee. General Bragg was at Tupelo, Miss., with forty-five thousand. Buell started off from near Corinth with thirty-thousand men for North Alabama, which was undefended.

It was evident that some new move must be made, and it resulted in what was called the Kentucky campaign.

General Forrest, that brilliant cavalryman, who was said to have been the only military genius that the war produced, and the greatest cavalry leader of history, and John H. Mor-

gan, the daring partisan, were sent into Middle Tennessee and Kentucky, and by their restless activity claimed the attention of the Federals in that section. While General Wheeler in the rear of the enemy at Corinth was keeping them busy with his cavalry, Bragg transferred his army from Tupelo to Chattanooga, leaving Generals Price and Van Dorn to confront Grant at Corinth.

Kirby Smith advanced into Kentucky, met the enemy under Nelson at Richmond, defeated him, captured six thousand men, nine guns and all of his wagon-trains, and marched into Lexington. A brigade of cavalry was sent on to Louisville, and Harry Heth's division marched north to Covington just across the river from Cincinnati. Bragg was still at Chattanooga with twenty-eight thousand men; Buell with fifty thousand was at Murfreesboro.

After the battle of Richmond, Buell and Bragg both raced for Louisville; Buell via Nashville and Bowling Green, Bragg by a road to the east. The people of Louisville were wild with excitement, the Southern sympathizers eagerly looking for the Confederates, the Unionists removing their valuables across the river for safety.

On September 17th, while Lee was repelling the bloody assaults of McClelland at Sharpsburg, Bragg engaged a part of Buell's army at Munfordsville, Ky. Bragg captured a garrison of four thousand prisoners, but his advance was arrested and Buell won the race to Louisville.

Like Lee in Maryland, General Bragg was disappointed in gaining recruits in Kentucky. When he saw the comfort that was on every side he said, "These people have too many fat cattle and are too well off to fight." There were many Southern sympathizers in that State, but as many more who sided with the North.

## CHAPTER XIX.

### PERRYVILLE.

General Buell moved from Louisville on October 1st with large reinforcements to meet Bragg and attacked him at Perryville on the 8th. Enfilading the enemy with his artillery and pouring a blinding fire with his infantry, Bragg dealt such destruction in the Federal ranks that regiment after regiment gave way before his determined onset. During the battle our troops advanced about a mile, holding their ground and capturing prisoners, guns and colors. But the losses were not all with the Federals. While they lost four thousand we lost thirty-four hundred, and in the Forty-first Georgia Regiment alone seven color-bearers were successively shot down.

The Confederates were at every point victorious and night fell with the battle-field entirely within our lines. But it would have been folly for Bragg with fifteen thousand exhausted men with no base of supplies to await a second attack by fifty thousand, half of whom were fresh troops; so he wisely withdrew to Harrodsburg.

Two days elapsed and no forward movement was made by the Federals. Bragg prepared to retreat to Murfreesboro. The retreat was accomplished safely, but with many difficulties.

The Kentucky campaign had not been a failure. The Federals had lost in killed, wounded and prisoners twenty-six thousand men. We had taken thirty-five cannon, sixteen

thousand rifles, thirty-seven thousand mules and horses, and had redeemed Middle Tennessee and North Alabama.

Buell was removed for not destroying Bragg, and Bragg was censured for not destroying Buell. In Tennessee Buell was succeeded by General Rosecrans. Bragg's army was weakened by President Davis peremptorily ordering him to send eight thousand men to reinforce Pemberton in Mississippi.

### MURFREESRORO.

New Year's day found the Confederates at Murfreesboro, Tenn., with Rosecrans in their front a mile and a half away. In this situation the gallant General Wheeler with three thousand cavalry made a complete tour of Rosecrans' army, capturing eleven hundred men and destroying millions of dollars worth of property, leaving in his wake all the debris of a captured wagon-train and returning on the second day with supplies enough to arm a brigade.

Bragg resolved to attack the enemy in his position. On December 30th the Confederates moved out of Murfreesboro and crossed Stone's River. The Federals had encamped across the Nashville road with one flank resting on the river's bend. At early dawn General Hardee, with characteristic promptness, advanced to the attack and found the enemy cooking their breakfast. But though surprised they soon rallied and a desperate fight ensued. Sweeping on like a resistless tide the Confederates drove everything before them. A thousand Federals fell in a few minutes. Then Cleburne came rushing over fences and through thickets with the fury of a tornado, and Cheatham followed with his brave Tennesseeans, pressing back the enemy at every point. Their line was doubled back upon itself by the irresistible fury of the Confederates like the shutting of a knife-blade.

But the flower of the Western army under one of their most skillful leaders did not yield without a stubborn fight. The repulse and the rally followed in regular succession and blood flowed everywhere. The Federal Generals Sill and Kirk were killed, General Van Cleve badly wounded and General Willich was captured. Field officers and privates lay in piles upon the ground. Night fell upon the scene and the battle ended, leaving us masters of the field.

The next day the Federals entrenched and both armies rested. Again Bragg attacked, taking the position they had occupied, but as his victorious soldiers continued the charge far beyond their support, they were met by a galling fire from the reserve Federal artillery and two thousand fell upon the field. Another day passed without fighting and the battle of Murfreesboro proved another fruitless victory, for the Confederates fell back to Tullahoma and thence to Chattanooga. The losses at Murfreesboro were fearful. Out of thirty-five thousand men engaged, Bragg lost over ten thousand. Of forty-six thousand Federals, twelve thousand seven hundred were lost, of whom thirty-five hundred were taken prisoners.

## CHAPTER XX.

### VICKSBURG.

In the meantime, on the 3d and 4th of October, a fierce assault was made upon the Federal lines at Corinth, by Van Dorn with twenty thousand men. General Rosecrans, who had not then relieved Buell, commanded the Union army with signal ability, and testified to the desperate fighting of the Confederates, which excited his warmest admiration. But the attack failed of its object. Corinth remained in the Union lines. But General Van Dorn redeemed the defeat of Corinth by a brilliant move in which, with three thousand cavalry, he destroyed Grant's whole depot of supplies at Holly Springs, to the value of $1,000,000, and captured two thousand prisoners and six thousand muskets, compelling Grant to fall back to Corinth.

The closing of the year 1862 found General Sherman preparing to assail Chickasaw Bluffs, which was held by General Stephen D. Lee. The position had been made almost impregnable by that distinguished engineer officer, General Martin L. Smith, but Sherman said when he ordered the attack: "We have got to lose five thousand men before we take Vicksburg, and we may as well lose them here as anywhere." Ten minutes after the assault was made he had lost eighteen hundred men, when his subordinates assured him there was no possibility of success.

General Sherman refused to send a flag of truce asking for the removal of his dead and wounded because, he said, it looked like a confession of defeat. His example was followed for the same reason by General Grant at Cold Harbor.

By the following May, General Grant had by a circuitous route placed his army in the rear of Vicksburg, with gunboats above and below on the river. The city was completely invested and the siege begun. The Confederate forces, numbering thirty thousand, were commanded by General Pemberton.

The bombardment of the city was incessant, and women and children were compelled to take refuge in caves dug in the hillsides. Every morning and afternoon when the regular shelling began, they would go to their caves, returning to find perhaps that an intruder had been in the home, and the parlor or it may be the sleeping-room, completely demolished. One night a solid shot entered a room in which two children were sleeping, passed through the bureau, struck the bed, tearing out the footposts, and passed out of the house. The bed dropped to the floor, but the children were unharmed.

Desperate assaults upon the works were made by the Federals, in which they suffered great loss. Food became scarce. Communication with the outer world was cut off, and no supplies came to the relief of the beleaguered city. Mule meat became a substitute for beef, and rats were esteemed a choice delicacy. Finally as one of the soldiers said, they had peas for breakfast, water for dinner and swelled up for supper. Forty-seven days the siege lasted until human endurance had reached its limit. Every soldier was needed to man the defenses; no relief could be given any portion for a single hour. Confined within the narrow limits of the trenches night and day, exposed to sun and shot and shell, with limbs cramped and swollen, without food, nothing remained but capitulation; and on July 4th, as Lee was retreating from Gettysburg, Vicksburg surrendered to General Grant.

## CHAPTER XXI.

### CHICKAMAUGA.

Since Bragg's retreat to Chattanooga, both armies in Tennessee had lain inactive. Some daring cavalry raids had occurred, and General Forrest had distinguished himself by some important captures.

In August, 1863, Rosecrans began to move from Bridgeport, Ala., with the intention of crossing the Tennessee River and striking Bragg in the rear. His design was discovered and Bragg fell back to Chickamauga, leaving Chattanooga in the enemy's hands. While Rosecrans was gathering his forces, General Bragg had the opportunity to strike him in detail and utterly defeat him, which General Lee or Stonewall Jackson would have been quick to do. But the opportunity was neglected, and the Federals took position after concentrating their brigades.

On September the 19th the great battle of Chickamauga was joined. Fierce fighting all day long gave the advantage to the Confederates. That night Longstreet, who, with his hardy veterans, had been detached from Lee's army, arrived with welcome reinforcements.

The crisp September morning had hardly broke when the contest was renewed. The fighting was sanguinary and determined. Hillside and mountain re-echoed with the roar of artillery and every crest was lighted with a sheet of flame. As the sun rose high the heat became intense and thirst added its horrors to those of war. A pool of water in which lay men and horses shot to death was the coveted prize

over which the living fought. All day the conflict waged over hill and dale till night closed upon the scene.

Rosecrans' headquarters were captured and his army was swept from the field. On right and left every position had been abandoned. But one was held.

On a bold spur of the ridge George H. Thomas, a native Virginian, had placed one of his brigades. Protected on one side by a precipitous wall and strengthened by heavy log breastworks, these brave defenders of a defeated army held their position hour after hour. Regiments and brigades and divisions of the flower of the Confederate troops dashed against this improvised fortress and were cut to pieces by its well-aimed fire. But the final assault of the day drove the enemy from their stronghold, and as the darkness hid them from view they retreated beyond the ridge.

But for the firm stand made by the gallant Thomas, the rout of the Federals would have been complete. He saved their army from destruction, and gained for that day's work the name of "Rock of Chickamauga."

During the night and all the next day, Rosecrans' troops, disorganized and defeated, were hurrying to the rear. The roads were filled with artillery mixed with wagon-trains, and all was confusion and disorder.

Forrest was quick to perceive it and urged General Bragg to push the pursuit, saying "that every hour was worth a thousand men." But General Bragg seemed not to know that he had gained a victory. Instead of striking the fleeing Federals and taking Chattanooga, the objective point of the campaign, which their defeated commander was preparing to evacuate, the day was spent in gathering the spoils of battle. Rosecrans was given time to breathe. He strengthened his defenses, he rallied his men, he reorganized his brigades and held his ground.

The battle of Chickamauga was another barren victory. Though the Confederates, forty-seven thousand strong, defeated sixty-four thousand Federals, and though they captured eight thousand prisoners, fifty-one cannon, fifteen thousand stand of small arms and vast quantities of stores, the point for which the battle was fought was not gained, simply because the commanding general did not choose to take it.

## CHAPTER XXII.

### MISSIONARY RIDGE.

In October, 1863, General Grant was placed in command of the army at Chattanooga. On November 4th, Longstreet was detached from Bragg to look after Burnside at Knoxville, and proceeded thence to join General Lee in Virginia. Sherman had come to reinforce Grant, bringing the aggregate of his army up to sixty thousand men.

Since the battle of Chickamauga Bragg was occupying Missionary Ridge, which rises a few miles back of Chattanooga, and was confident of starving out Rosecrans and marching into Chattanooga at his pleasure. Indeed Rosecrans was seriously contemplating retreat; but General Grant pursued a vigorous policy which resulted in a fierce attack on our lines.

General Hooker crossed Lookout Mountain and struck Bragg's flank and the battle of Missionary Ridge followed. It proved a disaster to our arms, relieving Chattanooga, and confirmed the Union army in its possession of all the country north of Tunnel Hill. The so-called "Battle of the Clouds" General Grant himself said was a romance of the war. There was no "battle" of Lookout Mountain. General Hooker, with eight thousand men crossed the river and drove in a picket force of twelve hundred Confederates, and the rest is all poetry.

Northern writers have had much to say of the battle of Missionary Ridge and a great cyclorama of the scene has been exhibited. It was a stampede of our army confronted

by twice their number on the report that Hooker was in their rear. But it was none the less a victory for the Federals and none the less a disaster to our cause.

The general dissatisfaction with General Bragg, his unpopularity with his soldiers, and his unfriendly relations with some of his most prominent generals impelled the President to remove him. General Joseph E. Johnston was appointed to succeed him.

## KNOXVILLE.

In the meantime Longstreet with ten thousand men had marched to Knoxville to keep Burnside in check. The trip was a rough one, but the men bore it well. Burnside was found at Loudon with twelve thousand troops, and a running skirmish ensued for thirty miles, Longstreet trying to bring Burnside to a fight and Burnside trying to reach the defenses of Knoxville. At Lenoir's and Campbell's, sharp skirmishes were fought with no result of value, for Burnside reached his goal and Longstreet beseiged it.

At Knoxville the Federals held a line of breastworks under the command of General Sanders. They were assaulted by Kershaw's brigade of South Carolinians and carried by storm. General Sanders was killed. He was a Mississippian by birth, a gallant soldier, and at West Point was an intimate friend of General E. P. Alexander, who commanded the artillery in this fight—another instance of friends meeting in deadly combat.

A week later General Longstreet prepared to attack a strongly fortified point, which, in honor of the gallant dead, had been named Fort Sanders. The charge was ordered to be made at dawn by the infantry alone, and Wofford's Georgians with Humphries' Mississippians were designated to lead it. With Anderson's Georgia brigade, they lay all night

upon their arms in open field without fires, suffering greatly. The night was dark and misty, the temperature freezing. At daylight the signal gun was fired, and up they sprang and forward for the charge. They advanced to the rifle-pits and swarmed over them to be met by a withering fire of grape and cannister, and were driven back into the pits. Reinforcements were ordered forward, but a staff officer reported that the ground was covered with wires stretched from stump to stump and could not be passed; so the troops were recalled. The report was not true, but the repulse ended the attack. Our loss was severe, the colonel of every regiment engaged being killed. The news of Bragg's defeat at Missionary Ridge put an end to the siege of Knoxville. Longstreet spent the winter in East Tennessee, returning to Virginia in April, just in time to take part in the great battle of the Wilderness.

## CHAPTER XXIII.

### THE ATLANTA CAMPAIGN.

General Johnston's command of the Army of Tennessee is a story of retreat before overwhelming numbers—a retreat unsurpassed in the history of wars for skillful manoeuvering and dogged resistance; a retreat wherein not a wagon was lost nor a position taken by direct attack; in which forty-three thousand men fell back before the continuous assaults of ninety-eight thousand; a retreat which has been pronounced one of the most brilliant movements in the history of warfare.

From Dalton to Atlanta, from May 6th to September 2d, 1864, there was a succession of battles, ranging in importance from skirmishes to general engagements. While Grant and Lee were grappling in the smoke of the Wilderness, Sherman was butting against Rocky Face and closing in on Johnston at Resaca. While Grant, out-generaled, was recrossing the North Anna, Sherman was being beaten back from the rude defenses of New Hope Church. At Resaca, New Hope, Big Shanty, Culp's Farm, Kennesaw Mountain, Peachtree Creek, and Atlanta, the same story of attack and repulse and retreat to fortified lines must be told. At New Hope the Confederates fought so valiantly that Sherman named it "Hell's Hole."

For seven days continuous assaults were made upon the Confederates at Kennesaw, and one hundred and forty cannon bombarded their position. At nine o'clock on June 27th a general assault was made. The enemy were permitted to come within twenty paces of the Confederate works before a

gun was fired. Then a deadly fire was opened upon them, prostrating whole columns. In front of Cleburne's division, three thousand dead were laid out that fatal morning. The Federals protected themselves behind parapets and their dead lay unburied for two days upon the mountain-side.

And so as Johnston would choose a position and entrench, the enemy would close around him and force him to retire to a new entrenchment, until it was truly said of his men that they digged all night and fought all day.

But the continued retreat gave dissatisfaction, though Johnston lost but ten thousand men, while Sherman lost forty thousand. The people complained, and the Administration at Richmond was displeased. President Davis said he wanted a general who would fight. As General John B. Hood had made a reputation as a fighter, he was appointed on June 18th to supersede General Johnston.

No doubt General Polk would have succeeded in command had he lived. But only a few days before, Generals Johnston, Hardee and Polk had ridden to the top of Pine Mountain to reconnoitre the ground, when a Federal battery opened fire on them. One ball passed through General Polk from side to side, killing him instantly. In his death the Confederacy lost one of its purest and ablest generals, a soldier of unflinching courage and of conspicuous ability.

General Hood had been crippled in his arm at Gettysburg and had lost a leg at Chickamauga, but in spite of that he was a splendid horseman. As he was put at the head of the army to fight, and there was nothing he liked better, he threw to the winds the tactics which Johnston had employed. On July 20th he fought the battle of Peachtree Creek. One wing of the Federal army had crossed the creek about five miles north of Atlanta, while the other was at Decatur. General Hood determined to attack the divided wings. Down the

Peachtree slope rushed Stewart's men, charging and firing, and drove the enemy back, holding his works until enfiladed by his artillery; then slowly retiring, took position on the hill.

Meanwhile the position of the other wing at Decatur being known, Hardee was sent to make a night march around his flank. Moving to the south he took position to attack and rested his men a little. Then with the suddenness of a cyclone these men in grey fell upon the Federal host. But the attack was bravely met. Their artillery poured an iron rain upon the Confederate columns, but they never wavered. With colors flying and steady tread they closed the gaps as the wounded fell and on they went. They swarmed over a battery and captured it, turning the guns upon their late owners. They drove the infantry back, capturing their entrenchments. Nothing could exceed the gallantry of their advance. A Federal soldier said, "The battle of Atlanta was a warfare of giants. In the impetuosity and the splendid abandon and reckless disregard of danger with which the rebel masses rushed against our lines of iron and cold steel, there had been no parallel during the war."

But of what avail? Gathering their brigades from either side the Federals pressed back their brave assailants with overwhelming numbers, recapturing their works and their battery and did not feel the loss of their dead and captured. Yes, in the death of General McPherson, who was killed in what is now Grant Park, the Union army lost one of its most conspicuous officers, and the Confederates suffered no less in the death of that gallant Georgian, General W. H. T. Walker.

Though he captured many guns and colors, General Hood withdrew within the fortifications of Atlanta. A week later he sallied forth and attacked at Ezra Church and was forced again to withdraw.

Then began the siege of Atlanta. Sherman, with increased

forces, advanced little by little, digging entrenchments as he went, and throwing up breastworks as he closed in slowly but surely upon the city. The lines were near together, and the sharpshooters did deadly work on both sides. The city was bombarded from July 9th to August 25th. Women and children took refuge in cellars from the storm of shells. The Federals swung around to Jonesboro and were met by Hardee, with the usual result. Then all his railroad communications being cut, General Hood abandoned Atlanta, united with Hardee and fought at Lovejoy's Station. Sherman entered the city on September 2, 1864.

## CHAPTER XXIV.

### FRANKLIN AND NASHVILLE.

After a month's rest, General Hood marched northward to cut Sherman's communications, and, if possible, reach Kentucky. Sherman followed with a part of his army. Hood attacked but failed to take Allatoona; he cut the railroad, captured Dalton, marched to Gadsden and by a series of daring adventures, baffled Sherman so that he did not know where next to expect him. The winter came on, but he gave his men no rest. In bitter cold weather he advanced in light marching order, to Franklin, Tenn.

In the meantime Sherman had sent Generals Thomas and Schofield to Nashville, while he himself returned to Atlanta. At Franklin, General Hood overtook Schofield, who was hastening to join Thomas at Nashville, and attacked him on November 30th. From 4 till 9 P. M. the conflict raged and proved one of the fiercest fights of the war.

Some doubt had been felt as to how the Confederates would behave after so long a series of retreats, but the battle of Franklin proved that the same undaunted spirit and reckless daring as of old animated them when facing the enemy in a fair field. Both general officers and privates fought with the madness of despair. The Federals threw up entrenchments just on the edge of the town and here the fighting was terrific. Like the conflict at the "Bloody Angle" at Spottsylvania, men engaged in a hand-to-hand struggle, and after firing at close quarters grappled in the endeavor to drag each other over the breastworks.

When night ended the battle the Federals retreated to Nashville, leaving their dead and wounded on the field. We could ill afford the losses at Franklin. General Adams was shot dead with his horse's feet over the enemy's breastworks. General Cleburne was killed and so were Generals Granberry, Strahl, and Gist. Generals Cockerell, Quarles and Brown were badly wounded. Pushing on to Nashville, General Hood entrenched without the city and waited reinforcements from Mississippi, which never came. On December 15th, General Thomas attacked him. The first day's result was undecided. On the second our men were overwhelmed. The defeat was disastrous and the hopes of the Confederacy in the West were at an end. Rallying his men as best he could, General Hood retreated along the road on which they had marched a few weeks before flushed with victory. A month later he went into camp at Tupelo and asked to be relieved of the command.

## CHAPTER XXV.

### SHERMAN'S MARCH.

In the meantime General Sherman having returned to Atlanta from following Hood, determined to cut loose from his communications and march to Savannah. There the Federal fleet would furnish him with supplies and he would be free to go to Grant's assistance at Petersburg. Having perfected his plans he ordered all citizens to leave Atlanta. The Mayor and Council petitioned him to revoke the order. They said: "It will involve consequences appalling and heartrending. There are many poor women with young children whose husbands are away in the army, prisoners or dead. They have no house to go to and no means to buy or build one; no friends or relations to go to. How is it possible for these women to find shelter, or how can they live through the winter in the woods?" To this petition General Sherman replied that he would not revoke his orders because they were not intended to meet the humanities of the case! They were to go he cared not where, the aged and infirm, women and children, and find shelter wherever they might—a cruel order. But Sherman said, "War is hell," and, for his part, he made no attempt to alleviate its horrors. Before he left Atlanta he gave orders for its destruction. Houses were burned, engines, cars and everything destroyed that could be of any use. The railroads were torn up for miles and the rails heated and twisted. Then leaving the city a mournful picture of desolation, on November 15, 1864, with sixty-eight thousand men stripped of everything which would impede their march, he turned his face to the south.

One corps followed the Georgia Railroad and went by Milledgeville; another took the line of the Central Railroad and went by Macon. At Griswoldville some State troops under General Gustavus W. Smith opposed the latter corps and were badly cut up, but saved Macon from the fate of Atlanta.

Sherman's march through Georgia has been commemorated in story and song as one of the most brilliant feats of the war. It was a career of pillage and plunder; the unopposed advance of an army of veterans equal in numbers to the entire Confederate forces then in the field, met only by defiant women, frightened children and submissive slaves; an army perfectly equipped for war, sustaining itself on the captures of a section well stored with a crop just harvested. General Lee said of it: "There was nothing to oppose him, and the only military problem to be solved was a simple calculation as to whether his army could live on the country by taking all that the people had." The outrages of this great raid gave his soldiers the name of "Sherman's Bummers." There were many honorable soldiers in that army who deprecated its ravages, but General Sherman himself encouraged them. No just complaint can be made for the seizure of food for the men and horses, as they passed through an enemy's country; but for open violence, robbery and murder, that raid has no equal in modern warfare. Homes were entered and looted, the privacy of bedrooms forced, pictures and furniture wantonly destroyed, carpets ripped up, and old men were hung until they should tell the hiding-place of their money. This army of patriots advanced, gathering spoils and burning houses as they went, loaded with everything of value that could be carried, and at this day there is scattered throughout the North and West a vast collection of watches, silver-plate, jewelry, and books, and even communion services rifled from the churches, all sent home as trophies of a bloodless cam-

paign against peaceful women and children. Compare this record with General Lee's strict command when he was invading Pennsylvania: "No private property shall be injured or destroyed. It must be remembered that we make war only upon armed men." General Sherman gloated over the destruction he had caused and said: "We consumed everything for thirty miles on either side of a line from Atlanta to Savannah—pigs, poultry, corn and cattle, and ten thousand horses and mules. I estimate the damage done to the State of Georgia at one hundred millions of dollars. At least twenty millions enured to our advantage; the rest was simple waste and destruction." Compare this with General R. H. Anderson's report of his invasion of Pennsylvania: "The conduct of my troops was in the highest degree praiseworthy. Obedient to the order of the commanding general, they refrained from retaliating upon the enemy for outrages inflicted upon their homes. Peaceable inhabitants suffered no molestation. In a land of plenty they often suffered hunger and want. One-fourth their number marched ragged and barefooted through towns in which merchants were known to have concealed ample supplies of clothing and shoes."

After a month of looting, Sherman communicated with the Federal ships by the Ogeechee River and laid siege to the city. Poorly defended by militia under General Hardee, the city was soon taken and presented to President Lincoln as a "Christmas gift!"

From Savannah, Sherman marched to Columbia, S. C., and visited upon that beautiful city all the pent-up wrath of the Abolition Party. Because South Carolina seceded first, they professed to attribute to her the chief responsibility of the war. The soldiers had free license to rob and burn. Drunk with liquor they went from house to house, torches in hand,

drove the inmates out, rifled their homes of all their valuables, then applied the torch. General Sherman made no attempt to stop the incendiaries until the city was all in flames and the soldiers became riotous; then he sent for another corps to preserve order. Columbia was left in even a worse condition than Atlanta, and one of the most beautiful cities in the South was left a mournful heap of blackened ruins.

Thence passing through South Carolina the Federal army made its way to Fayetteville, N. C. Near that place ten thousand Confederate troops had gathered under Joseph E. Johnston. At Bentonville they made their last stand and a brisk battle was fought. But what avail was fighting then in an open field against such odds! April 18th found the Federal commander at Durham with Johnston at his front. General Lee had surrendered just nine days before, and on the same terms General Johnston surrendered his little remnant of an army.

## CHAPTER XXVI.

### SURRENDER OF THE WESTERN ARMY.

When General Hood reached Tupelo with the fragments that escaped the retreat from Nashville, General Richard Taylor was ordered to relieve him.

The troops were in a wretched condition, without arms or clothes. Resting for a while in February, they were moved towards North Carolina. A small detachment joined Johnston there. But meantime General J. H. Wilson had marched his cavalry through Alabama, taken Selma and Montgomery, and thence proceeded to Columbus and Macon, in Georgia. General Canby attacked Mobile from the land side, which city General Maury evacuated, going to Meridian, Miss. Here he joined Forrest and Taylor with the remnants of Hood's army. News was received of Lee's surrender, and a truce was made until they could hear the details. On May the 4th Taylor surrendered the entire force under his command.

After the terms of the surrender were effected, General Canby entertained General Taylor and his staff at lunch. While they were at the table the band outside began playing "Hail, Columbia." General Canby excused himself for a moment and went to the door. Then the Confederate guests noticed that the band suddenly stopped and, after a minute, struck up "Dixie." It was a delicate and thoughtful courtesy and showed that a soldier when a gentleman is not forgetful of the feelings of even an enemy.

### OLUSTEE.

Florida had a little campaign all to herself in February,

1864. It was an election year, and Mr. Lincoln thought it might help his nomination if at least one Southern State should be completely subjugated and its government reorganized within the Union. As Florida offered the greatest inducements for this purpose by reason of its exposed situation, General Seymour was sent from the coast with fifty-five hundred troops to possess the land.

When he reached Jacksonville the small force doing picket duty about that place telegraphed to Savannah for help. General Alfred H. Colquitt was hurried to the field with his brigade of Georgians and several other attached regiments, among them the Chatham Artillery of Savannah and six hundred cavalry. The opposing forces equal in number met at Ocean Pond, on the Olustee River. It was, as General Hawley said, a fair, square, stand up fight, in the open pines; a stubborn fight in which the Federals first began to yield. Two regiments fled and were seen no more. After a time the ammunition of the Confederates gave out. The couriers and staff officers were riding furiously between the lines and a car some distance in the rear, bringing cartridges in caps, pockets and haversacks to supply the men, while Lieut. Hugh Colquitt rode up and down in front of the line, urging them to stand firm until the ammunition came. They did stand fast, and when a general advance was made, drove the enemy back, pressing them until their retreat became a flight. The Federals lost one-third their number and had one hundred and twenty horses killed. The Confederates captured five cannon, sixteen hundred rifles and quantities of ammunition. Night put an end to the pursuit, and daylight found the enemy on the march back to their ships, the campaign ended and nothing gained.

## CHAPTER XXVII.

### THE TRANS-MISSISSIPPI CAMPAIGN.

A week after the first battle of the war at Big Bethel, Va., an engagement occurred a thousand miles away at the other side of the Confederacy.

The people of Missouri were almost unanimously Southern in sentiment, but the State was prevented from seceding by the prompt and vigorous measures adopted by Francis P. Blair, Jr., who seized the seat of government with the aid of a garrison of United States troops, and subdued the State to military authority.

A motley collection of hunters and farmers hastily gathered together, armed with shotguns and squirrel-rifles, formed what was called the "Missouri Army," under General Sterling Price, and opposed the Federal troops. They went out to look for the enemy, and while they encamped near Springfield, Mo., the enemy came out to look for them. The surprise was mutual and a bloody battle was fought. General Lyon, the Federal commander, was shot dead from his horse as he headed a charge; his men wavered, turned and fled, and the day was won for the Southerners.

Marching to Lexington, Mo., General Price besieged that town in the month of September and after a week it surrendered. With the fruits of this victory the Missourians were able to arm three thousand of their men, man a battery of artillery and equip a regiment of cavalry, besides capturing thirty-five hundred prisoners, $100,000 worth of commissary stores and $900,000 of stolen money.

In the meantime General John C. Fremont was sent to de-

stroy Price's army with forty thousand men. General Price of course retreated before this force and leisurely retired to Neosho. But at this juncture Fremont was superseded by General Hunter, who for some reason stopped the pursuit and turned back to St. Louis.

During the winter General Earl Van Dorn was placed in command of the Trans-Mississippi army. He was a dashing soldier, graceful and elegant in person and a fighter withal. Price's army was mustered into the Confederate service under Van Dorn. The early days of the spring of 1862 found them at Pea Ridge Mountain with an aggregate force of sixteen thousand men in front of the enemy.

Unwisely dividing his army, General Van Dorn attacked in two directions. The first day he was successful, but the morning found the enemy in a strong position, and failing to turn them a retreat was ordered.

With the loss of the gallant Ben McCulloch and Generals Slack and McIntosh, the army fell back and left Missouri to the Federals. Just previous to the battle of Shiloh, General Van Dorn was ordered to transfer every man he could muster across the Mississippi to the support of Beauregard. He arrived too late to take part in that great battle.

To save the now abandoned Trans-Mississippi, General Thomas C. Hindman was assigned to that command. With marvelous energy this able soldier gathered from every source an army of twenty thousand men and forty-six pieces of artillery and established his headquarters at Little Rock, Ark.

The Federal General Curtis retreated before him to Helena and in the meantime General T. H. Holmes was sent with authority over Hindman.

With no settled plan in view, Hindman was ordered here and there across the State of Arkansas until December, 1862, when an engagement occurred at Prairie Grove, in which the

Confederates were defeated. About the same time Arkansas Post, which was held for the protection of Little Rock, was captured with five thousand prisoners.

On July 4th, while Grant was entering Vicksburg, General Holmes attacked and was repulsed at Helena, fell back to Little Rock and thence to Shreveport, where he went into winter quarters, being superseded by Kirby Smith.

On September 8, 1863, a Federal fleet with ten thousand men attempted the passage of the Sabine River, the dividing line between Louisiana and Texas, with the intention of raiding all that section of the Confederacy. At Sabine Pass a poorly constructed fort was garrisoned by forty-three men under command of Lieut. Richard Downing. As the Federal vessels approached, Downing and his men opened fire upon them with two small cannon and their small arms. The fight lasted an hour and a half, at the end of which time this little company of heroes had captured two gunboats, sunk another, killed fifty men and wounded many others, captured one hundred and fifty of the enemy, and eighteen of his cannon, without losing a man of their own. In all the history of ancient and modern warfare there is no parallel to the victory of Sabine Pass.

In April, 1864, the Federal General Banks organized a grand expedition in fleets to move up Red River and attack Shreveport, where the Confederates were now commanded by General Dick Taylor.

Having debarked from their ships, the Federals, thirty thousand strong, with wagon-teams, etc., gaily marched towards Shreveport.

Near Mansfield, Dick Taylor fell upon them and captured their artillery and wagons, while those who escaped being taken prisoners fled in a wild panic to the rear. The summer

and winter dragged along with no important movements and no advantages on either side. Cut off from the rest of the Confederacy, the Trans-Mississippi army could neither give nor receive aid and on May 26, 1865, after being surrendered by General Kirby Smith, it was finally disbanded.

## CHAPTER XXVIII.

### THE CONFEDERATE CAVALRY.

The operations of the Confederate cavalry can hardly be mentioned in connection with the great battles of the war, because they were usually detached from the main army and their engagements were for the most part entirely independent of the other branches of the service.

The infantry affected to make much fun of the cavalry, calling them "Buttermilk Rangers," and other disrespectful names; and one general even went so far as to say that nobody ever saw a dead cavalryman. But the cavalry was a very necessary arm of the service and the Confederate cavalryman was a bold rider, a daring raider, and a hard fighter when the occasion came. It is true that he was fond of buttermilk, and if a fat young pig or an obtrusive lamb attacked him on the highway he was not the man to run away until he had captured his assailant. This desperate resistance to domestic animals sometimes gave them a bad name, and in some parts of Georgia Wheeler's cavalry was actually believed to have taken things without arranging for a *quid pro quo*.

While the two armies lay watching each other before Richmond, General J. E. B. Stuart conceived the idea of riding around McClelland just to see what he was doing. He started out with twelve hundred cavalry, pretending that he was going north to join Stonewall Jackson. Sweeping around towards the York River, he executed the most brilliant ride of the war. While passing through a ravine of a road he discovered a strong force of Federal cavalry on the hill above.

Charging upon them after a brief resistance he routed them and came into possession of a camp full of valuable stores. The enemy proved to be the Fifth Regulars, General Lee's old regiment. Stuart lost one man, Captain Latane, the only man killed during the raid. Dashing into this camp Stuart captured the private baggage of his father-in-law, General Philip St. George Cooke, who commanded the Federal cavalry, and left a note for him expressing his regrets that he did not stay to see him. At Tunstalls one hundred men and three transports laden with supplies were captured. Forty-eight hours night and day the Confederates rode without rest. They destroyed two hundred loaded wagons, sunk three large transports, captured three thousand horses, one hundred and seventy prisoners and destroyed $3,000,000 worth of army stores. Having gained McClelland's rear, they made for the James River and rode back to Richmond, men and horses thoroughly worn out from want of rest. Stuart said he had left one general behind him. Being asked who it was, he said, with a twinkle of the eye, "General Consternation."

A second complete circuit of McClelland's army was made by Stuart a few weeks after the battle of Sharpsburg, with about the same result as the first, and after the battle of Fredericksburg he rode within twelve miles of Alexandria, seized the telegraph office and sent a telegram to Quartermaster General Meigs in Washington, complaining that the mules furnished Burnside's army were of such very inferior quality that he was embarrassed in sending back the wagon-trains which he captured from the Federals and requesting that better ones be provided in future.

In June, 1863, as General Lee was preparing to cross the Rappahannock in his advance into Pennsylvania, twelve thousand of the Federal cavalry attacked Stuart at Brandy Station and were about to overwhelm him with superior numbers.

His batteries of horse-artillery had been captured and the fight had assumed the character of a melee, with every man for himself against two or three of the enemy.

As the Federals had gathered themselves for a final charge, Pierce Young came upon the field with Cobb's Legion, of which Hampton said with pride, "It was the best regiment in either army, North or South." Taking in the situation, he shouted to his Georgians and Carolinians, "Forward, men!" With sabers drawn, at full speed, they hurled themselves upon the ranks of blue, cutting and slashing to the right and left. The fierceness of that charge carried everything before it. A vain attempt was made to hold their ground, but the repulse became a rout, and in wild disorder the Federals fled across the river to the refuge of their batteries.

A year later, almost in sight of the battle-field of 1863, the victory was won again.

In October, 1863, Stuart made a raid around Meade's position at Centreville and upon returning was pursued by General Kilpatrick with three thousand picked cavalry. Retreating towards Warrenton, at Buckland, Stuart suddenly turned and flew into the face of his pursuer, while Fitzhugh Lee struck him upon the flank. The surprise was complete. Kilpatrick's men flew with the Confederates in wild pursuit and the rout is known as the "Buckland Races."

## CHAPTER XXIX.

### CAVALRY LEADERS.

Nathan Bedford Forrest was a great cavalryman. General Wolsey, the commander-in-chief of the British army, said that Forrest was the greatest military genius that the war produced and one of the greatest cavalry leaders of the world. His field of operations reached from the Mississippi to the Cumberland. Some one asked him once, "General, to what do you attribute your remarkable success?" "Getting there first with the most men," said he. In February, 1864, Sherman sent General Sooy Smith from Memphis with seven thousand cavalry to raid the country as far as Selma, Ala., and destroy everything in sight. Near West Point, Miss., they were confronted by Forrest with twenty-five hundred men. The Federals advanced to drive him off, but, to their great surprise, he repulsed them, capturing thirty-three stand of colors and drove them back on their road to Memphis, completely breaking up the intended raid.

On June 10, 1864, General Sturgis, with seventy-seven hundred men and twenty-two guns, set out with the special object of cutting Forrest off and destroying him. He found him at Brices with only forty-two hundred troopers. But Forrest as usual took the initiative, dashing with fury upon the Federal line with pistols and sabers and driving them back in confusion until they were in full retreat. Their loss in killed and wounded was six hundred men, and they left sixteen hundred prisoners, eighteen pieces of artillery, five thousand stand of small arms, and two hundred and fifty wagons full of supplies in Forrest's hands. Forrest's capture of Colo-

nel Streight with his entire command, when raiding North Alabama, would have made the reputation of any soldier. Streight with twenty-four hundred picked men started on a raid through Alabama, bound for Rome, Ga., to destroy the iron works of the Confederacy. Forrest sped after him, fighting day and night, until on the third day, with only three hundred men, he captured seventeen hundred, who were all that were left of the raiders. During the war General Forrest had twenty-seven horses shot under him and himself killed more men than any commander since the days of the Crusaders.

Early in July, 1863, General Bragg ordered General John H. Morgan with twenty-five hundred men to ride into Kentucky and threaten Rosecran's communications, so as to veil his own retreat. Morgan started ostensibly to obey orders, but really to carry out a plan of his own—a great raid into Ohio. He rode to Lebanon, Ky., captured the garrison there, crossed the Ohio below Lexington in a captured steamboat, pushed on through Indiana, impressing fresh horses as he went and destroying every bridge that he crossed. Turning east he marched unmolested through the suburbs of Cincinnati and across to the Ohio River near Blennerhassett's Island. The whole country was aroused and militia and home guards turned out to intercept the bold raider while he was hotly pursued by the regular troops. But until he reached the Ohio he had avoided them all. Here they closed around him. About half his men escaped; but Morgan after nearly reaching the Virginia shore returned and at the head of the others, headed for Pennsylvania closely pursued. After a ride of four weeks he surrendered up in the Pan Handle with three hundred and sixty-four of his troopers. With sixty-eight other officers General Morgan was confined in the Ohio penitentiary, from which he escaped by cutting a tunnel under the walls.

Perhaps the most daring partisan of the war was John S. Mosby. His operations were restricted to a few counties around Fairfax and were so bold in conception and so sudden in execution that, although he rarely had more than two hundred men, he kept a standing army of five thousand Federals on the watch lest he should ride into Washington and capture the President and his cabinet.

A sample of Mosby's work was his exploit in February, 1863, when with only twenty-nine men he rode one night into Fairfax Court House and out again, passing through five thousand sleeping Federals. Going to the house occupied by Colonel Percy Wyndham, the daring raider found the Colonel was out, but he quietly captured all his clothes and horses and two lieutenants. Then Mosby went to the headquarters of General Stoughton. Some one called from the window, "Who goes there?" "Fifth New York! with dispatches for General Stoughton," said he. Climbing the stairs he asked the officer where General Stoughton was, and as he pointed to an adjoining room, Mosby thrust a pistol in his face, ordered him to be quiet and turned him over to one of his men. Then opening the door he found the General lying asleep on the bed. Mosby gave him a slap and told him to get up. Indignant and but half awake Stoughton asked who had the audacity to be so disrespectful. "Did you ever hear of Mosby?" "Yes, have you got him?" said Stoughton. "No, but he has got you. Get up and dress quickly. I must take you out of here." So with one general, two captains, thirty privates and fifty-eight horses this dare-devil Captain of Rangers rode through the town, and through the fortifications of Centreville unchallenged by the pickets and delivered his spoils to Fitzhugh Lee.

Mosby, with a few troopers, surprised a small party of Federal cavalry dismounted in the yard of a residence. Dash-

ing in he attacked them, when a negro girl ran out of the house and exclaimed, "Gentlemens, Miss Ann say you all mustn't fight in her front yard!" But Mosby was so discourteous as to keep fighting in Miss Ann's yard until he had captured the intruders.

The defeat of Sheridan at Brandy Station by General Wade Hampton, and at Trevillians by Fitzhugh Lee, the story of the "Buckland Races" and the handsome repulse of Wilson at Reams Station are well worth the reading.

General Wheeler's ride around Rosecrans at Murfreesboro has been related. That bold rider, distinguished in two wars, did valiant service in attacking the enemy's flanks, heading off his raiders, capturing his stragglers and finding out his movements, and the soldiers of the line always felt safe when they knew that Wheeler was around. His reputation as a fighter made then, after the third of a century has conferred upon him a general's commission in the army of the United States.

## CHAPTER XXX.

### THE CONFEDERATE NAVY.

The Confederate navy hardly deserved the name. The Southern States had but few skilled mechanics and fewer machine-shops, or rolling-mills. The ports were soon blockaded and nothing could be imported without running great risk of capture. Our navy was composed of river steamers, of old sea-going vessels converted into steamers and newly built gunboats fitted with old engines.

In March, 1862, an event occurred near Norfolk which revolutionized the navies of the world. At the evacuation of the Portsmouth Navy Yard, the Federals burned and sank the ships at anchor there, among them the frigate Merrimac. The Confederates raised her, refitted her and converted her into an ironclad by covering her with railroad iron laid in a slanting position and spiked to her frame. She proved a clumsy craft, slow and difficult to turn. Nevertheless she was armed and manned, renamed "Virginia," and, under command of Commodore Buchanan, steamed out from Norfolk one morning towards Fortress Monroe. From Newport News to Fortress Monroe there lay at anchor five Federal vessels of war, the Cumberland, the Congress, the Minnesota, the Roanoke and the St. Lawrence. The Virginia steamed up and attacked one after the other, sinking the Cumberland and destroying the Congress. The Minnesota was run aground while the other two vessels escaped to the protection of the Fortress. Unwilling to trust the channel by night, the Virginia retired to Norfolk, intending to come out in the morning and finish up the Minnesota. But when the morning came

there appeared with it a strange craft which was at once recognized as the Monitor. The two ironclads closed at once and began firing at close range. The fight lasted about nine hours, when both vessels withdrew, both damaged, but neither whipped. The next day the Virginia came out and offered battle, but the Monitor declined the challenge. The Monitor was afterwards lost in a storm off Cape Hatteras. The Virginia was taken up James River after the evacuation of Norfolk and being of too heavy draught for that stream she was blown up. The first day's success of the Virginia carried consternation to the cabinet at Washington. Secretary Stanton said: "The Merrimac will change the whole character of the war. She will destroy seriatim every naval vessel and lay all the cities on the seaboard under contribution." Indeed but for the meagre means at hand for refitting her and the timely appearance of the Monitor, she would have done that very thing. Like the Virginia, other ships found in the Confederate ports were fitted up as ironclads, but without exception were clumsy and of heavy draught and soon became a prey either to the enemy or to the waves.

### THE ARKANSAS.

The Arkansas was begun at Memphis and finished on the Yazoo. She was one of the few vessels made entirely within our own lines and of home material. She was built on the plan of the Virginia, was armored with railroad iron, carried ten guns and had a speed of eight knots an hour. As soon as she was completed, Captain I. N. Brown headed her down stream bound for Vicksburg. She soon met three Federal vessels, the ironclad Carondelet, the gunboat Tyler and the ram Queen of the West.

The Arkansas showed fight, riddled the Carondelet, which raised the white flag, drove off the other two and proceeded

on her course. Above Vicksburg in the river lay two of the enemy's fleets under Admiral Farragut, a perfect forest of masts and smokestacks. Captain Brown, nothing daunted, told his pilot to shave the men-of-war as close as he could so that the rams could not strike him, and putting on all steam he went into their midst. He first engaged the flagship Hartford. Then the whole fleet let loose a storm of shot from every side that made him think he had gotten into a volcano. Firing from every gun the Arkansas went through them all, sinking one ram and reached the defenses at Vicksburg alive but considerably battered. About sunset on the same day, three of the most formidable of the enemy's fleet came in sight and attempted her destruction; but with half her crew on shore the gallant little ironclad gave them as good as they sent and they passed on. A few days later another attack was made on her by the Essex, but she too went on her way the worse for the encounter. At Baton Rouge, her engines being disabled, "Lieutenant Stevens landed the crew, cut her from her moorings, and fired her with his own hands and sent her adrift down the river. With every gun shotted, her flag floating from her bow, and not a man on board, the Arkansas bore down upon the enemy and gave him battle. Her guns were discharged as the flames reached them and when her last shot was fired, the explosion of the magazine ended her brief but glorious career."

### THE TENNESSEE.

The Tennessee, another ironclad of the Virginia type, was built on the Alabama River. Her armor plating was made in Atlanta and when completed she was with some difficulty gotton into Mobile Bay. On August 5, 1864, Admiral Farragut entered the bay with his fleet. The Tennessee, under Admiral Buchanan, promptly went to meet them. The moni-

tor Tecumseh reserved her fire until she was within a quarter of a mile, but she never delivered it, for just then she was struck by a torpedo and immediately sank. The rest of the fleet passed the Tennessee, going up the bay, in the meantime capturing three of our smaller wooden vessels. The daring Confederate followed them, when the whole fleet turned to crush her. The Hartford, the Lackawanna, the Chickasaw, the Winnebago, the Ossipee, the Monongahela, all vied with one another for the honor of sinking the rebel. For four hours they poured shot into her without cessation until her engines became useless and the ship unmanageable; then she surrendered. Admiral Buchanan was wounded and two men killed, but the Tennessee was practically unhurt.

L. of C.

## CHAPTER XXXI.

### THE DESTROYERS.

### *The Sumter.*

But the great damage done to the enemy was to his shipping on the seas. The Sumter was an ordinary steamer refitted and armed with five guns. She was commanded by Raphael Semmes. Lying in the mouth of the Mississippi, she awaited an opportunity to slip by the blockading vessel's side, and finally steamed out in their very teeth. Her mission was to destroy the enemy's commerce. During her short career of six months she captured seventeen Federal vessels and her appearance upon the seas created such a panic among the Northern skippers that they put nearly all their vessels under foreign flags. The Sumter put in at Gibraltar, but under the provisions of international law could obtain no coal, and being of no further service was sold.

### *The Alabama.*

But Admiral Semmes' fame rests upon his service with the Alabama. Named for the State of his adoption this historic cruiser, built in England for the Confederate government, entered upon a career of capture and destruction which swept American commerce from the seas, forced the carrying trade into the hands of other nations and dealt it a blow from which it has never yet recovered. It is too long a story to tell the history of the Alabama. From the very first her name became a terror to merchantmen. Keeping in the track of traders she ran down and destroyed everything that car-

ried the Stars and Stripes. During her brief career of less than two years she sailed seventy-eight thousand miles and captured sixty-three American vessels, and after the war the claims presented by the United States for losses sustained at her hands amounted to more than $7,000,000. In June, 1864, she had come into Cherbourg, France, for repairs. While there the United States war vessel Kearsarge steamed into the harbor. Admiral Semmes sent her captain word that if he would wait outside he would fight him next day. The news was quickly spread abroad. That Sunday fifteen thousand people, many of whom had come from Paris, covered Cherbourg heights and every available spot watching for the fight. The Alabama steamed proudly out of the harbor and outside the three league limit and delivered fire at the waiting enemy. Circling around each other they fired broadside after broadside, solid shot and shell. After an hour or more Captain Kell reported that the water was rushing in the Alabama's side, her fires were out and he could no longer keep her afloat. In ten minutes more she settled end foremost and the scourge of the seas sank beneath the waves.

*The Florida.*

The Florida was another English built vessel. Under the command of Commander J. N. Moffit she ran a course of twelve months, capturing and burning $5,000,000 of property afloat. In October, 1863, she entered the neutral port of Bahia, Brazil, where she found the United States sloop of war Wachusetts. Feeling quite secure under the neutrality laws, her captain and most of the crew went ashore. But before the day broke the Wachusetts got under way, ran into the Florida and badly disabled her. As the Federal backed off and saw the Florida was not sinking, he fired a brodside into her, when she surrendered and was taken out to sea. The

United States made an apology to Brazil and the captain of the Wachusetts went through the mockery of a court-martial.

### *The Shenandoah.*

In October, 1864, the Shenandoah, under command of Captain James I. Waddell, steamed out from the Canaries to destroy the enemy's commerce. In nine months she captured fifty-one vessels. Away off in the Pacific in August, 1865, Captain Waddell heard of the collapse of the Confederacy. He immediately dismounted his guns, closed his port-holes and made his way to Liverpool, where he arrived November 5th, and asked if the report he had heard was true. *Punch* afterwards had an amusing cartoon representing Captain Waddell sitting astride a gun on the Shenandoah and shouting to a pilot, "Is it true that Queen Anne is dead?"

The Shenandoah captured twenty-five vessels three months after Lee had surrendered. The aggregate claims which the United States made against England alone for actual losses by vessels of the Confederacy, which it was alleged had come from English ports, were $26,408,170. Add to this enormous amount the damage done by our ships with which England had no connection at all, and to that the losses by the restriction of trade, and it will be admitted that the Confederate navy was after all not entirely harmless.

## CHAPTER XXXII.

### INCIDENTS OF THE WAR.

It is a remarkable fact that the President and one of the Vice-Presidents of the United States during the war were Southern-born men. Not only that but Admiral Farragut, Generals Thomas, Sykes, Reynolds, Crittenden, Blair, Buford, Cooke, Fremont, Pope, Hunter, Gibbon and Sanders were Southern-born men; and more than that, two hundred thousand of the enlisted men in the Federal army during the war were attributed to the Southern States.

Families were singularly divided in their sympathies. General Thomas Drayton of South Carolina was brother to Commodore Drayton of the United States Navy. General Lee had a nephew who was a colonel on the other side. Of Henry Clay's grandchildren three were in the Federal army and four with the Confederates. General Thomas L. Crittenden and Colonel Eugene Crittenden were Federal officers, while their brother George was a Confederate general. General John C. Breckinridge and his three sons cast their fortunes with the South. His cousins, distinguished Presbyterian divines, were uncompromising Unionists. One of these had two sons in each army and at the sanguinary battle of Atlanta, Federal General Joseph C. Breckinridge was captured by his brother, Colonel W. C. P. Breckinridge.

The presence of mind which constant danger develops was strikingly shown on many occasions during the war. At Seven Pines a courier came unexpectedly upon a Federal regiment. Riding towards them he said, "What regiment is

this?" "Seventh Massachusetts," was the reply. "All right," said he, "the orders are to hold your position at all hazards," then turned and rode off before a scattering volley could reach him.

At Perryville General Polk believing that the Confederate troops were firing into each other, rode up to the colonel of the regiment that was firing and asked him angrily what he meant by firing on his own friends. The colonel said, "Why, I don't think there is any mistake. I am sure they are the enemy." "Enemy! Why, I have just left them. Cease firing, sir! What is your name?" said General Polk. "I am Colonel Blank of the Fortieth Indiana. And who are you, sir?" Suddenly aware that he was in front of a regiment of the enemy, his dark clothes befriending him, General Polk shook his fist in the face of the colonel and said, "I will show you who I am, sir. Cease firing immediately." Then galloping down the line he ordered the men, "Cease firing," and reaching the cover of the woods he turned and was soon among his own men.

In the Valley campaign General Stonewall Jackson rode down to a stream at Cross Keys to find himself in front of a gun which commanded the bridge. He saw he had not been recognized and quick as a flash he called out, "Who ordered that gun to be placed there?" "Colonel Blank," was the reply of the officer in charge. "Remove it instantly, and place it higher on the hill," ordered Jackson in a tone that carried authority with it; and while the command was being obeyed he turned, crossed the bridge and put spurs to his horse. The Federal officer, perceiving that he had been duped, turned his gun and sent a shot after the retreating general, but it went wide of the mark and he escaped unharmed.

No less admirable was the grit of the soldier in the very face of death.

At Spottsylvania a surgeon found a poor fellow shot through the lungs with bloody foam oozing from his mouth at every breath. "My poor fellow," said the doctor, "you are dying. If you would like any message sent to your friends, tell it to me and I will see that they get it." Raising his eyes and breathing with difficulty the soldier said hoarsely: "Doctor—put—your hand—in my—pocket." The doctor did so, and brought out a piece of tobacco and a few Confederate bills. "How much—money—is there?" gasped the dying man. The doctor counted it and said, "Eleven dollars and seventy-five cents." "Doctor," said he, "I'll—bet you—eleven dollars—and—seventy-five—cents—I'll—get well." And he did.

General Forrest used to tell this story on himself:

While Bragg was retreating from Tennessee, Forrest was in the rear guard. An old lady ran out of her gate as he was passing and urged him to turn back and fight, and as he rode on without stopping she shook her fist at him and said, "Oh, you cowardly rascal! I wish Forrest was here. He would make you fight."

At Fort Smith, Ark., a squad of Confederates who were guarding a crossing found a small cannon. They concluded to mount it on a mule and after firing a parting shot at the enemy, carry it off. They loaded it up and when the blue-coats appeared on the other side, the gunner pointed the mule across the river and said, "Shoot her off." But when the fuse began to sizz and the sparks to fall on her shoulders, the old mule began to revolve and the boys instantly dropped to the ground. Just then the captain came down and called out "Up, men, and into line." No one stirred. The command came again more earnestly, when one of them said, "Captain, we can't get up until that old mule shoots." Just then the gun fired, the mule tumbled over and the shell struck wide of the mark on the hillside. The captain cried out, "Every man

take care of himself; the Yankees are all around us!" and made for the woods. But they soon rallied and after a good laugh retreated in good order with the mule and the gun.

In a sketch like this it would be impossible to even enumerate hundreds of skirmishes which occurred during the war; some of which almost attained to the dignity of a battle. But in these fights the Confederate soldier showed the same high qualities which made him conspicuous in the greater battles.

The defense of Charleston, of Port Hudson, of Fort Fisher, of Fort Morgan, and of Fort Pulaski, against the navies of the United States, were characterized by stubborn resistance against greatly superior numbers.

The night attack of Gordon on Fort Steadman before Petersburg, and the defense of Fort Gregg and Sabine Pass, deserve to rank with Gettysburg and Spottsylvania. The capture of Kinston, the attack on Plymouth and the battle of Drewry's Bluff and of Munfordsville deserve more than passing mention. But the records are open for a larger study of the war, and from them some one will write a full and fair history of this great struggle for the rights of the South under the Constitution.

In every description of a battle the name of the commanding general shines out with a reflected glory. It is just that the leader should receive praise. It is he who plans and directs; without his genius the battle could not be won. But shall no word of praise be found for the private soldier who bore the heat and burden of the day? It was he who, ragged and footsore, tramped the frozen roads, leaving bloody footprints on the ground, or marched in heat of summer stifled with the dust of travel; who suffered hunger and privation; whose annual pay was not enough to buy a suit of clothes, while the dear wife and children were lacking at home for food; who marched and fought and starved with no thought

of yielding; who braved the fever of the hospital and the deadly peril of the battle-field with absolute fearlessness. The glory of the Confederate army belongs to the private soldier. All honor to him! There is not in all history an example of a more unselfish patriot, nor a more determined foe than the Confederate soldier!

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